

# Fruits Basket

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The #1 selling  
shojo manga  
in America!

23

Natsuki Takaya



NICE TO MEET YOU AND HELLO! THIS IS TAKAYA. HOW ARE YOU?  
ONCE I STARTED TO WRAP UP FURUBA, IT REALLY FELT LIKE  
IT HAD BEEN A LONG TIME COMING. BUT EVEN NOW, WHENEVER  
I THINK OF YOU FINE PEOPLE WHO LOVE "FRUITS BASKET", I  
FEEL THAT TRULY, IN SOME WAYS, THE STORY WILL NEVER  
BE OVER. I THINK TO MYSELF, "YOU ALL CONTINUE TO LET  
IT LIVE ON IN YOUR HEARTS... MY WORK IS CHERISHED BY SO  
MANY..." AND I KEENLY REALIZE HOW FULL OF GRATITUDE I  
AM. THANK YOU. I THINK BACK TO WHEN I STARTED DRAWING  
FURUBA, HOW THERE WERE TIMES WHEN I THREW MYSELF  
INTO IT WHOLE-HEARTEDLY, WITH AN ALMOST DESPERATE  
DEVOTION, IN ORDER TO MAKE IT THROUGH. I CAME OUT OF  
THOSE TIMES REALIZING THAT FURUBA HAD BEGUN TO TRAVEL  
THE WORLD, AND WAS BEING READ BY FANS ALL OVER THE  
GLOBE. IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE THAT I THINK THAT THERE  
CAN'T BE ANY GREATER HAPPINESS THAN TO BE A MANGA  
CREATOR. TRULY, THANK YOU. THE EVER KIND AND SMILING  
TOHRU, BASHFUL KYO, AWKWARD YUKI, AND ALL THE OTHER  
CHARACTERS... THANK YOU FOR LOVING THEM SO MUCH. FOR  
THAT, I LOVE ALL OF YOU IN RETURN. TRULY, TRULY THANK YOU.

高屋奈月.

Natsuki  
Takaya



# Fruits Basket™

Volume 23



Natsuki Takaya



# Fruits Basket™

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# STORY SO FAR...

Hello, I'm Tohru Honda, and I have come to know a terrible secret. After the death of my mother, I was living by myself in a tent, when the Sohma family took me in. I soon learned that the Sohma family lives with a curse! Each family member is possessed by the vengeful spirit of an animal from the Chinese Zodiac. Whenever one of them becomes weak or is hugged by a member of the opposite sex, that person changes into his or her Zodiac animal!





## **Tohru Honda**

The ever-optimistic heroine of our story. An orphan, she now lives in Shigure's house, along with Yuki and Kyo, and is the only person outside of the family who knows the Sohma family's curse.

## **Yuki Sohma, the Rat**

Soft-spoken. Self-esteem issues. At school, he's called "Prince Yuki."



## **Kyo Sohma, the Cat**

The Cat who was left out of the Zodiac. Hates Yuki, leeks and miso. But mostly Yuki.

## **Kagura Sohma, the Boar**

Bashful, yet headstrong. Determined to marry Kyo, even if it kills him.



# Fruits Basket Characters

## Mabudachi Trio



### Shigure Sohma, the Dog

Enigmatic, mischievous and a little perverted. A popular novelist.

### Hatori Sohma, the Dragon

Family doctor to the Sohmas. Only thing he can't cure is his broken heart.



### Ayame Sohma, the Snake

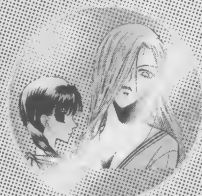
Yuki's older brother. A proud and playful drama queen...er, king. Runs a costume shop.

### Saki Hanajima

"Hana-chan." Can sense people's "waves." Goth demeanor scares her classmates.

### Arisa Uotani

"Uo-chan." A tough-talking "Yankee" who looks out for her friends.



Tohru's Best Friends



## Hiro Sohma, the Ram (or sheep)

This caustic tyke is skilled at throwing verbal barbs, but he has a soft spot for Kisa.

## Momiji Sohma, the Rabbit

Half German. He's older than he looks. His mother rejected him because of the Sohma curse. His little sister, Momo, has been kept from him most of her life.



## Hatsuharu Sohma, the Ox

The nicest of guys, except when he goes "Black." Then you'd better watch out. He was once in a relationship with Rin.



## Kisa Sohma, the Tiger

Kisa became shy and self-conscious due to constant teasing by her classmates. Yuki, who has similar insecurities, feels particularly close to Kisa.



# Fruits Basket Characters

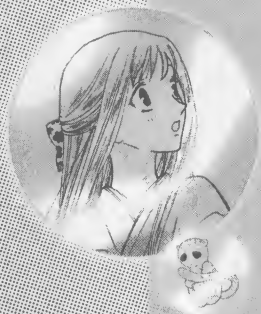
## Isuzu "Rin" Sohma, the Horse

She was once in a relationship with Hatsuharu (Haru)...and Tohru leaves her rather cold. Rin is full of pride, and she can't stand the amount of deference the other Sohma family members give Akito.



## Ritsu Sohma, the Monkey

This shy, kimono-wearing member of the Sohma family is gorgeous. But this "she" is really a he!! Cross-dressing calms his nerves.



## Kureno Sohma, the Rooster (or bird)

He is Akito's very favorite, and spends almost all of his time on the Sohma estate, tending to Akito's every desire. Kureno was born possessed by the spirit of the Bird, but his curse broke long ago...which means we've never seen him transformed. He pities Akito's loneliness, and can't bring himself to leave her.



## Akito Sohma

The head of the Sohma clan. A dark figure of many secrets. Treated with fear and reverence. It has recently been revealed that Akito is actually a woman!










**Chapter 132**

# **Fruits Basket**™

A black and white manga-style illustration of a person with short hair, wearing a dark jacket, sitting on a wooden bench. They are looking away from the viewer towards the left. There are some plants and a small flower-like object on the bench next to them.

HE ALWAYS  
SEEMED  
FINE, EVEN  
WHEN HE  
WAS ALONE.

A black and white manga-style illustration of a person with short hair, wearing a dark jacket, sitting on a wooden bench. They are looking away from the viewer towards the left. There are some plants and a small flower-like object on the bench next to them.

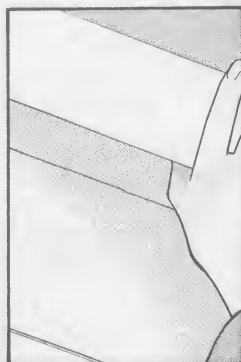
AND FOR  
SOME  
REASON...  
THAT MADE  
ME ANGRY.

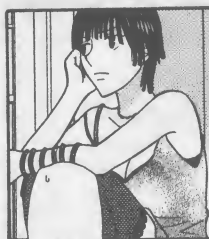
A black and white manga-style illustration of a person with short hair, wearing a dark jacket, sitting on a wooden bench. They are looking away from the viewer towards the left. There are some plants and a small flower-like object on the bench next to them.

"SHIGURE."

A black and white manga-style illustration of a person with short hair, wearing a dark jacket, sitting on a wooden bench. They are looking away from the viewer towards the left. There are some plants and a small flower-like object on the bench next to them.

"DO YOU  
LIKE ME?"





AYA-NII  
PRANCED  
OFF  
SOME-  
WHERE.

EH.

WONDER-  
FUL.



YUKI.

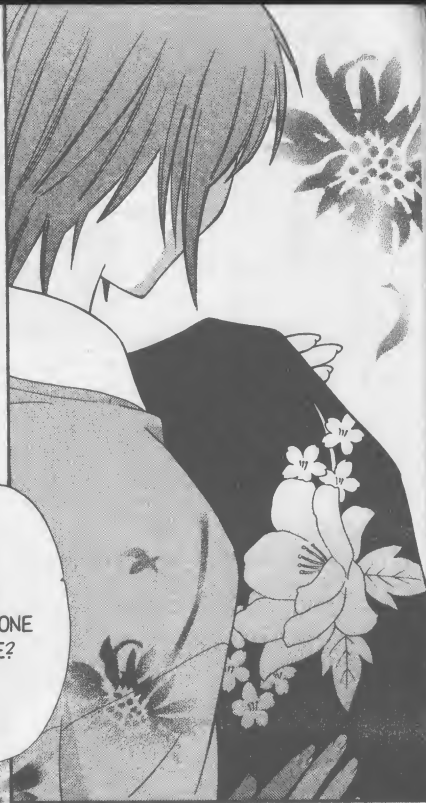


Huh?

YOU  
MEAN  
HE'S NOT  
HERE?

WHERE'S  
SHIGURE?

IS  
EVERYONE  
HERE?



EXCUSE  
ME?!

IT'S KINDA  
IRONIC THAT  
THE GROWN-  
UPS ARE  
THE ONES  
WHO CAN'T  
SIT STILL  
TODAY.

HM.

HE WASN'T  
AT HOME  
THIS  
MORNING, SO  
I ASSUMED...

## Fruits Basket

Nice to meet you and hello. This is Takaya. Furuba has finally reached its final volume, and Kyoko-san adorns the last cover. It starts with Tohru and closes with Kyoko-san. I had decided that from the beginning. She has a bright, full-faced smile, fitting of Kyoko-san. ...All said and done, this has been a long series. It's thanks to all of you that it was able to go on. I think it must be hard to keep reading something for a long time. Thank you very much. ♪ ♪ I went on a sort of break after Furuba ended, but with little things here and there, I'm still doing lots of work. I was like, "Huh?" (laugh) But a vacation where I'm doing nothing would probably be hard on me in its own way, so maybe it's better this way...maybe.

Now then, laughing or crying, this is the end of Furuba. Please enjoy it!



I'M SORRY! I'M  
SORRY I'M SORRY  
I'M SORRY FOR  
BEING A GOOD-FOR-  
NOTHING ADULT!

I'M  
SOOOOOOORRY!

I CAN'T  
BELIEVE  
YOU'RE  
STILL  
DRESSING  
LIKE A  
GIRL.

I GUESS  
SOME  
THINGS  
NEVER  
CHANGE.

AKITO  
CALLED  
US.

WE CAME  
'CAUSE  
AKITO TOLD  
US TO MEET  
HERE.

ABOUT  
US?

BUT...

I MEAN...

...DOESN'T  
AKITO  
ALREADY  
KNOW?





...YO.



YO.



...THE AIR IN  
HERE MIGHT  
AS WELL  
FREEZE  
OVER.



I CAN'T DO  
THIS, OKAY?!  
I JUST CAN'T!

EVERYTHING'S  
MAKING ME SO  
**DEPRESSED!**

**MY  
BUTT!**

Agh!  
WHAT?  
WHAT THE  
HELL'S  
WRONG?!



WHAT  
AN  
AWFUL  
PERSON.

SO NOW  
YOU'RE  
CHEATING.

HMPH.



IS THIS A  
CONSPIRACY?!  
ARE YOU GUYS  
IN CAHOOTS?!

AWFUL!


WHA?!  
I'M NOT--

AWFUL






DON'T  
WORRY.



IT'S OKAY--  
I'LL ALWAYS  
LOVE YOU.



UH...  
THANKS,  
BUT RIN'S  
WATCHING.




REALLY  
INTENTLY,  
ACTUALLY.



THE AIR  
MAY BE  
FROZEN...

...BUT  
WE'RE  
NOT,  
I DON'T  
THINK.



...THE CURSE  
BREAKING  
WOULD  
MAKE THINGS  
AWKWARD  
BETWEEN US.

I  
THOUGHT  
THAT  
MAYBE...

I ADMIT  
I WAS A  
LITTLE  
NERVOUS.

FRET NOT, MON FRÈRE! THINGS WILL NEVER BE AWKWARD BETWEEN US! OUR FOREBEARS LEFT US A WISE PROVERB!

shocky  
too BAM!

ALL IS WELL, YUKI!

"THERE IS NOTHING TO FEAR IF WE ALL RUN THE RED LIGHT TOGETHER!"

THAT'S NOT A PROVERB.

I WILL ALWAYS WATCH OVER YOU, WITH THE FIERCEST OF INTENSITIES!

...THAT'S A BIG CLAIM FOR SOMEONE WHO JUST WALKED IN.

NOW THAT WE'VE ALL BEEN FREED, WE CAN BASK IN OUR REFRESHING NEW LIVES!

WELCOME BACK.

HOW WONDERFUL, AYA-NIISAN!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE GETTING AT.

YOU MAY WORSHIP AND ADORE THE FACT THAT MY CHARISMATIC REFINEMENT, REGARDLESS OF WHAT COMES TO PASS, WILL NEVER FAIL BOTH YOU AND THE WORLD!



WHAT A  
THING TO  
SAY! WHERE  
HAVE  
YOU BEEN  
MEANDERING,  
KYONKICHI?!

HUH?  
UH...

THIS IS  
ONLY...THE  
SECOND  
TIME I'VE  
BEEN TO  
THE MAIN  
HOUSE.

EVERY-  
THING'S  
SO...WEIRD  
HERE.

НУН?

AKITO'S  
NOT HERE  
YET?

HOW CAN YOU  
TALK DOWN  
TO ME WHEN  
THIS ISN'T EVEN  
YOUR HOUSE?

Sheesh!

THIS MANSION  
COMBINES A SIZE  
AND LUXURIOSUSNESS  
THAT ARE TOO <sup>IS</sup>  
MUCH FOR THE  
ULTRA-COMMONER  
KYONKICHI TO  
COMPREHEND, BUT  
WE FORGIVE HIM FOR  
WANDERING ABOUT  
WITH RECKLESS  
ABANDON IN ORDER  
TO EXPLORE!

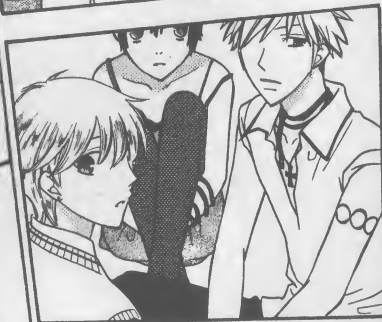
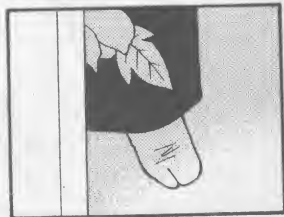
Is that so, is that so?!

...HE'S JUST  
BEING...PLAIN  
RUDE

NII-SAN REALLY IS SOMETHING. FAR FROM BEING CONSIDERATE OF KYO, WHO WAS THE FORMER CAT...

WHY NOT TAKE HOME SOME SLIPPERS OR SOME SUCH TO COMMEMORATE THE EVENT?!

'CAUSE  
THAT'S  
STEALING

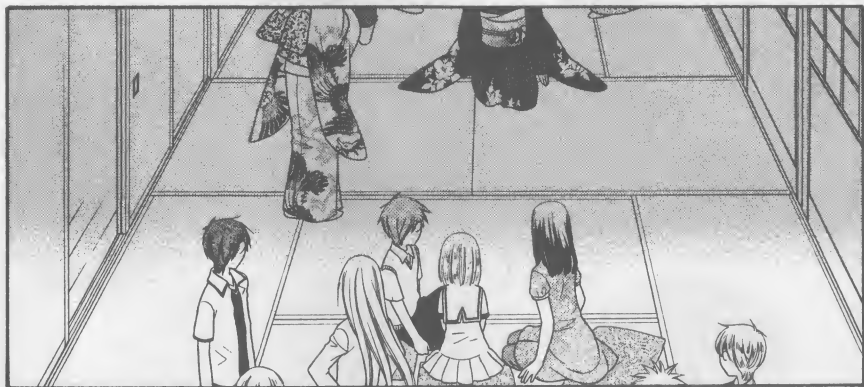








"A GIFT."



"I GUESS YOU COULD CALL  
IT A FAREWELL PRESENT."





GAH!



I HATE YOU!

I HATE YOU!

I DESPISE YOU!

WAIT.

I KNEW YOU WOULD BE THE FIRST--

OW.

I KNEW YOU WOULD BE THE FIRST TO JUST ABANDON ME!

I KNEW IT!

I HATE YOU!

OW...

I HATE YOU!

I DESPISE YOU!



CONGRAT-  
ULATIONS.

IT'S NICE  
TO MEET...

...THE NEW  
YOU.



WHO SAID  
I WAS  
ABANDONING  
YOU?

YOU  
SAID  
"FARE-  
WELL."


YOU...

YOU'VE  
FINALLY SAID  
GOODBYE TO  
THE PERSON  
YOUR FATHER  
WANTED  
YOU TO BE.

NOW YOU'RE  
TURNING INTO  
SOMEONE  
NEW, RIGHT?

SO THIS  
IS A  
PRESENT...

...TO COM-  
MEMORATE  
THAT.



...TO GO BACK  
TO BEING YOUR  
TRUE SELVES.

ALL OF  
YOU.

YOU  
WERE  
FINALLY  
ABLE...

"AND I LOOK  
FORWARD  
TO SEEING..."

...WHO I  
REALLY  
AM.

I'LL GO  
BACK TO  
BEING...

SO I'LL  
DO IT  
TOO.

...HOW YOU  
LIVE FROM  
HERE ON  
OUT."

AND  
THERE  
WAS  
EVERY-  
THING  
UNTIL  
NOW.

IT'S  
TAKEN  
A LONG  
TIME.

IT'S...

YOU'RE  
FREE.





I'M  
S...

...

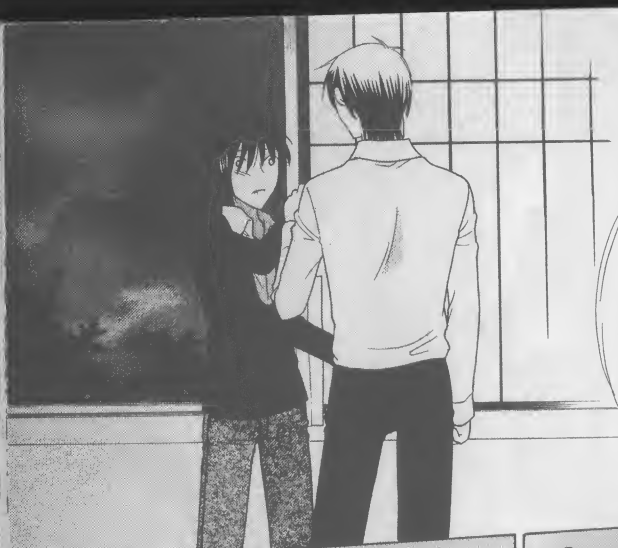
...UNTIL  
THIS  
DAY.

EVERYTHING...

"YOUR ONLY ACTIONS..."

...WERE CRUEL ONES."

"YOU MADE  
US SUFFER."



"IT  
MAKES ME  
WONDER."

"HOW ON  
EARTH CAN  
YOU MAKE UP  
FOR THAT?"



IT'S NOT  
THAT.

YOU  
WERE  
JUST...

I...

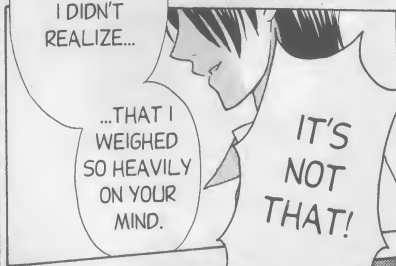
...I WAS  
MOST  
AFRAID OF!

YOU WERE  
ALWAYS  
THE ONE...



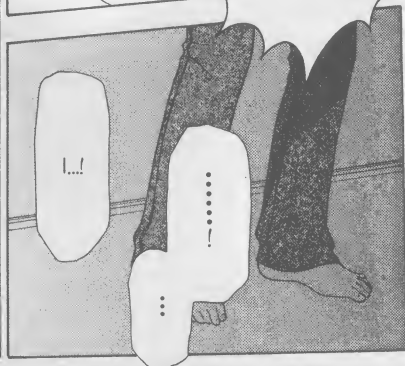
SHUT  
UP! JUST  
STOP  
TALK--

I'M HONORED.  
I DIDN'T  
REALIZE...



...THAT I  
WEIGHED  
SO HEAVILY  
ON YOUR  
MIND.

IT'S  
NOT  
THAT!



I...!

.....  
!

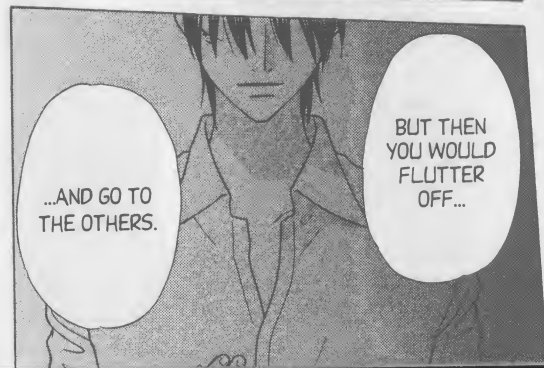


IF I DIDN'T  
STAY  
FICKLE...

...I WAS AFRAID  
I MIGHT BURST.



THERE  
WERE SO  
MANY TIMES  
I THOUGHT  
I HAD YOU.



BUT THEN  
YOU WOULD  
FLUTTER  
OFF...

...AND GO TO  
THE OTHERS.

I ALWAYS  
FELT...

...LIKE  
YOU WERE  
THE ONE  
WHO WAS  
FURTHEST  
AWAY.

I HAD TO  
KEEP MY  
COOL.

I COULD HOLD  
YOU BACK THE  
LEAST, YOU  
FEARED ME  
THE LEAST.

WHETHER  
THERE WAS A  
BOND OR NOT...

...YOU WERE  
THE ONE WHO  
PUSHED ME THE  
FURTHEST AWAY!



TRAITOR.

N...

WAIT!

BUT...

ONCE I'VE  
GOTTEN  
HOLD OF  
SOMETHING,  
I NEVER WANT  
TO LET GO.

AND I  
DON'T LIKE  
SHARING.

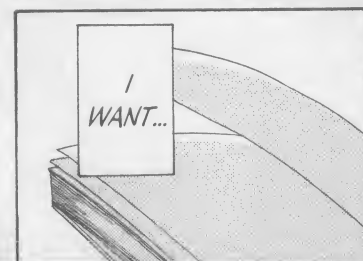
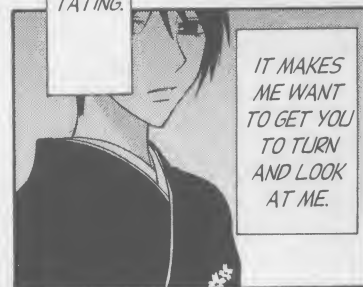
I DON'T LIKE  
GETTING  
HURT.

I HATE  
LOSING.

SHIGURE!  
DOES THAT  
MEAN YOU--

I'M CUNNING  
AND CHILDISH.





IT'S NOT FAIR. YOU MAKE IT SEEM LIKE YOU NEVER DO ANYTHING WRONG, SHIGURE.







TO  
SPREAD YOU  
THROUGH  
ME, AND  
SATURATE  
YOU WITH  
MY SCENT.

UNTIL YOU  
CAN'T BREATHE.

...TO  
SWALLOW  
UP YOUR  
ENTIRE BODY.

INTO MY CELLS

DOWN TO  
THE BONES

TO PENETRATE...

...DEEP, DEEP WITHIN.





IS THIS  
HOW  
WOMEN  
FEEL?



THIS  
FEELING.



THIS  
DESIRE.



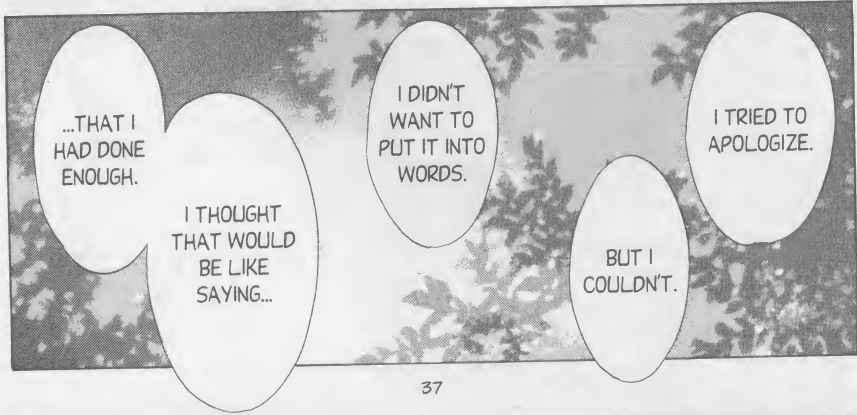
...THEY  
HAD  
MIXED  
FEEL-  
INGS.

I THINK...



EVERYONE  
WAS SUR-  
PRISED.

HN.



...THAT I  
HAD DONE  
ENOUGH.

I THOUGHT  
THAT WOULD  
BE LIKE  
SAYING...

I DIDN'T  
WANT TO  
PUT IT INTO  
WORDS.

BUT I  
COULDN'T.

I TRIED TO  
APOLOGIZE.

...THE HEAD OF  
THE FAMILY.

...TO PROTECT THEM.

TO DEFEND THEIR TRUE FREEDOM.

I MEAN,  
EVEN LIKE  
THIS...

...I'M  
STILL...

NO.

I  
STILL...

...WANT  
TO...

...LIVE HERE  
WITH THE  
SOHMA  
FAMILY.

I THINK  
THERE ARE  
THINGS...

...THAT I  
NEED TO DO.

I WANT...





YOU'RE  
SO  
BEAUTI-  
FUL.

THAT  
LOOK  
SUITS  
YOU.

YOU SURE  
TOOK YOUR  
SWEET  
TIME.

!! I CAN FEEL  
A SHIVER...

...SEND GOOSE  
BLUMPS DOWN  
MY SKIN.



IT'S EVERY  
TIME HE  
TURNS TO  
LOOK AT ME.

...I  
LOVE  
YOU.

I LOVE YOU.

I LOVE  
YOU...



*AS LONG AS YOU KEEP WANTING ME.*

## Chapter 133







ISN'T HE  
WAITING  
FOR HIS  
GIRLFRIEND?

HEY.

IT'S KYO-  
KUN!

MAYBE WE  
SHOULD  
TALK TO  
HIM!

IS HE GOING  
HOME?!



Hm?

HONDA-SAN  
FROM MY  
CLASS.

WHO?!  
WHO?!

What?!

WHADDYA  
MEAN,  
"GIRL-  
FRIEND"?!

G-GIRL-  
FRIEND?



TOHRU  
HONDA-SAN.



SHE'S STAYING  
BEHIND TO  
TAKE THEM  
RIGHT NOW.

Three minutes  
left.

SHE DIDN'T  
MAKE IT BACK  
IN TIME FOR  
FINALS.

HONDA-SAN  
WAS IN THE  
HOSPITAL FOR  
A WHILE WITH  
AN INJURY OR  
SOMETHING.



So you two  
finally started  
going out?

Hah  
high.

EVERYONE IN  
CLASS WAS  
TEASING THEM  
BECAUSE THEY  
WERE MORE  
CLINGY THAN  
EVER, AND...

I GUESS  
AFTER  
HONDA-SAN  
GOT OUT OF  
THE HOSPITAL.



I THINK  
HE'S  
WAITING  
FOR HER  
TO FINISH.

See? He  
went inside.



SO?

YEAH.

?

N-NO!

WHEN  
DID THEY  
START  
GOING OUT?!

HE'S GROWN  
INTO SUCH A  
FINE YOUNG  
MAN!

THE BOY WHO  
WAS SO AFRAID  
OF GIRLS  
THE DAY HE  
TRANSFERRED  
HERE THAT HE  
JUMPED OUT  
A WINDOW!

HE CAME  
RIGHT OUT AND  
SAID IT! THIS  
BOY CAME OUT  
AND SAID IT!

WHOOOOOAAA!

SHUT UP.

.....!

It was  
a huge  
deal.

...and  
so forth.

You really  
don't have to.

We have to  
cook some  
red rice!

Red  
rice!

This calls  
for a  
celebration!

What's  
going  
on?

Congratulations!  
Hi!

What's  
happening?

HE BELONGS TO  
SOMEONE ELSE--  
MY DREAM IS  
SHATTERED!

I'M SORRY  
FOR YOUR  
LOSS.

No way!

I'M  
SHOCKED!

THAT  
SUCKS!



## Shigure

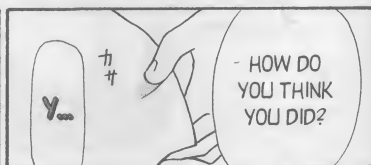
If you were to say he's a problem child, you'd be right.

- His father, mother, and Shigure make a family of three.

- He doesn't have the emotions of characters I generally draw. That was what I always intended, but as I continued to draw him, I got the feeling that he was growing really superficial.

- In the last chapter, Haru makes a comment about Sensei not getting hit, etc. But when I first drew the conversation with Hatori (chapter 16), I thought, "Never mind Tohru, but either Yuki or Kyo will probably hit him," so I had him say that. But when I opened it up, they were both a lot more mature than I had imagined, and thanks to that, Shigure-san got away without getting hit.

Stories are alive, aren't they? (laugh)





...A LITTLE  
HAPPY  
YESTERDAY.

MAYBE  
IT'S  
NOTHING.

HE JUST  
SEEMED...



DID  
SOMETHING  
HAPPEN  
RECENTLY?

AT THE  
SOHMA  
HOUSE, I  
MEAN.



H  
M  
M.

SOME-  
THING?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?!

Eh?  
WH-  
WHAT?



ASH!

NOT THAT  
IT MATTERS  
EITHER  
WAY. HEH  
HEH!

WALK  
HOME  
SAFELY!

OH.

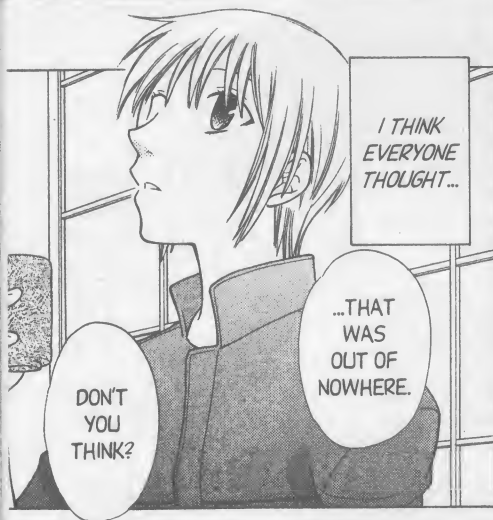
RATTLE  
RATTLE...

THEY'RE  
TOTALLY  
WHO I WAS  
TALKING  
ABOUT!

Who?!  
Y-YEAH--  
THAT'S  
RIGHT!

HAPPY?

KYO-KUN  
AND YUKI-  
KUN DID?



I THINK  
EVERYONE  
THOUGHT...

DON'T  
YOU  
THINK?

...THAT  
WAS  
OUT OF  
NOWHERE.



ME  
TOO.

I'M MOST  
SURPRISED  
THAT YOU  
KNEW.

I-I'M  
SORRY.

BUT  
I COULDN'T  
SAY  
ANYTHING  
ABOUT IT.



SHE ASKED  
ME IF  
SOMETHING  
HAPPENED.

A LOT DID  
HAPPEN.

MOST IMPOR-  
TANTLY,  
EVERYONE  
KNOWS  
ABOUT  
AKITO-SAN'S  
GENDER.



SHOCK?

ALTHOUGH  
IT'S HARD  
TO FIND  
THE RIGHT  
WORD  
FOR IT.

WELL,  
YEAH.

I WAS  
"DUMB-  
FOUNDED,"  
MAYBE?

.....



WAS IT  
REALLY  
...

...SO  
MUCH  
OF A  
SHOCK?



AS FOR  
ME...



BUT...

AND THAT  
WOULDN'T  
GET OUT  
OF MY  
HEAD.

...I REALIZED  
I'D BEEN  
VIOLENT  
WITH A  
WOMAN ALL  
THIS TIME.



IT'S  
DIFFICULT  
TO EXPLAIN.

THERE'S  
JUST  
BEEN  
...

...SO MUCH  
TO THINK  
ABOUT.





...WHO  
LIKED YOU.

PFFT!

...I'M A  
LITTLE  
RELIEVED.

I'D JUST BE IN  
TROUBLE IF  
THERE WAS  
ANOTHER  
GUY...

I  
DUNNO.

Eh?  
WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN BY  
THAT?



YOU ARE.

I'M  
NOT.

Heh  
heh

Heh  
heh  
heh

I'M  
NOT...  
LAUGH-  
ING AT  
YOU.

...HEY!



...IS GENTLER  
THAN IT USED  
TO BE.



Heh  
heh

THE  
ATMOS-  
PHERE  
AROUND  
THE TWO  
OF THEM...



I REALIZED  
SOME-  
THING TOO.

"Yeah,  
yeah--I  
know I'm  
being  
petty."



WHEN I  
ASKED  
HIM...

...WHY  
THAT  
WAS...



HE BEAT  
THE CRAP  
OUT OF ME.

H  
U  
H  
?!

YEAH.  
KNOCKED  
THE BIGGEST  
SCREW IN  
MY HEAD  
TOTALLY  
LOOSE.

WHAT?!

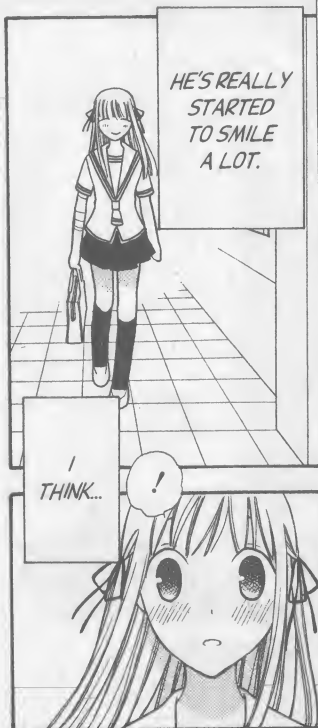
DON'T  
HANG OUT  
WITH THAT  
GUY--HE'S A  
COMPLETE  
JERKWAD.



WHA?!

I'M  
KIDDING.

... HA  
HA!



Hope the test  
went okay.

WELL,  
YEAH.

DID YOU  
WAIT FOR  
ME?!

KYO-KUN...!

きょう

OKAY,  
OKAY.

WHAT  
ARE YOU,  
A DOG?

NAH, I'M  
FINE.

THANK YOU  
VERY MUCH!  
YOU DIDN'T  
GET TIRED OF  
WAITING?!

I CAN  
TELL.

THAT'S THE  
SIDE OF KYO-  
KUN THAT  
ATTRACTS  
EVERYONE  
AROUND HIM.

HEY

THAT'S  
WHY  
ALL OF  
THIS IS A  
MIRACLE.

...THE GUYS  
GOING RIGHT  
TO THE  
WORKFORCE  
ARE PRETTY  
RELAXED.

Not like  
I know.

I GUESS  
COMPARED  
TO THE GUYS  
GOING TO  
COLLEGE...

I WAS  
PLAYING  
BASKETBALL  
WITH SOME  
GUYS FROM  
CLASS UNTIL  
A LITTLE  
WHILE AGO.

THEY WERE  
PRETTY  
WORKED  
UP IN THIS  
HEAT.

HEE  
HEE!



WAIT.

YOU...



...UH...

YES?



...THAT'S  
RIGHT.

MY  
DUTIES.

I HAVE TO GO  
MY BEST AND  
FIND A JOB.

← Completely  
forgot.



ANYWAY.

I KNOW  
LOOKING  
FOR A JOB  
NOW IS IMPOR-  
TANT AND  
ALL.

?



BUT  
SUMMER  
BREAK'S  
JUST  
STARTING.

LET'S  
SPEND  
LOTS...

...AND  
LOTS...



NO.

NEVER  
MIND. I'LL  
TELL YOU...  
A LITTLE  
LATER.







...BEING TOGETHER  
LIKE THIS.

KYO-KLIN  
AND I...

IT'S A  
MIRACLE.

FOR AS LONG  
AS POSSIBLE.

...TO CONTINUE

I WANT TO MAKE  
THE EFFORT.

I WANT THIS  
MIRACLE...

FOR FOREVER,  
IF IT CAN.

BECAUSE HOLDING  
HIS HAND LIKE THIS...

...  
TOGETHER  
...

...AND WALKING  
LIKE THIS...



...I'M PREPARED  
FOR DEATH  
AT ANY TIME.

I HAVE NO  
REGRETS.

AT  
THIS  
POINT...

...IS SOMETHING I CAN  
NEVER TAKE FOR GRANTED.

AT  
THIS  
POINT...

AND WHY ARE YOU SMILING?!

AH HA HA.

WHEN YOU SAY IT, IT'S NOT FUNNY!

SHE'S RIGHT! THAT'S NOT FUNNY!

No!

N-N-N-NO! YOU MUSTN'T SAY SUCH THINGS!

You mustn't!

WHEN YOU  
SAY IT,  
IT'S NOT  
FUNNY!

SHE'S  
RIGHT!  
THAT'S  
NOT  
FUNNY!

*No!*

AND WHY  
ARE YOU  
SMILING?!

N-N-N-NO!  
YOU MUSTN'T  
SAY SUCH  
THINGS!

You mustn't!



"G R A A A N D P A A A A ! ♥"

Think of it!  
Think!

whisper

Whisper  
whisper

IF THEY GET  
MARRIED AND  
HAVE A BABY,  
THEN YOU'LL  
HAVE A  
GRANDCHILD!

THINK OF  
THAT!

COME ON,  
SHISHOU...  
THIS CAN'T  
BE THE END.

WE'RE  
ONLY JUST  
STARTING  
THINGS.

HE'S RIGHT--  
HE'S RIGHT!  
BESIDES!



I'M GONNA  
GO WIPE  
THE FLOOR.

OOF.

PHEW!  
THAT'S A  
RELIEF.

W A I T . . .

Whew

Bah.

Has a  
hunch.



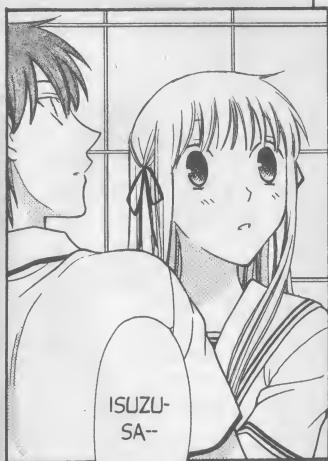
I'LL HANG  
IN THERE  
FOR MANY  
YEARS TO  
COME.

AND I'LL BE  
EAGERLY  
WAITING.

YES!

I'LL BE  
WAITING...  
JUST AS  
EAGERLY!

Doesn't get it.



ISUZU-  
SA--



OH.

Huff



...THIS IS  
STUPID, BY  
THE WAY.



NOT  
EVERYONE  
HAS THE  
SAME  
CIRCUM-  
STANCES  
RIGHT NOW.



ISUZU-  
SAN!



WHAT'S  
SHE SO  
MAD  
ABOUT?

WELL.



AND A  
LOT...

...HAS  
HAPPENED  
RECENTLY.



AND  
YOU!

THINK OF  
HOW BADLY  
YOU GOT  
HURT!

SCARS  
LIKE  
THAT...

THEY  
DON'T JUST  
DISAPPEAR!



...  
I.G.N.

AFTER  
EVERY-  
THING?

HE SUF-  
FERED SO  
MUCH...

HOW CAN  
HE ACT...

DIDN'T  
HE?

...LIKE  
NOTHING  
HAP-  
PENED?



IS IT MY  
FAULT?

DID I DO  
SOMETHING  
WRONG?

HOW CAN  
EVERYONE  
JUST ACCEPT  
THINGS AND  
MOVE ON?!

WHY?!

...

IT  
DOESN'T  
MATTER  
WHAT  
I DO.

I'M NOT  
SAYING SHE  
HAS TO...  
GROVEL IN  
FRONT OF ME  
OR ANYTHING.

AND I DON'T  
WANT  
HER TO  
APOLOGIZE,  
EITHER.

IT'S NOT  
LIKE  
THAT.

IT'S NOT!

I...

I...

IF I HAD TO  
CHOOSE TO  
FORGIVE  
AKITO OR  
NOT...

...I  
WOULDN'T  
FORGIVE  
HER.

I CAN'T  
FORGIVE  
HER...!



...HAS  
HAPPENED.

AND A LOT  
OF THINGS...

...HAVE ENDED.

AFTER  
EVERYTHING.

BUT THERE'S  
STILL PAIN.

A LOT OF IT.

AND IT  
CAN'T JUST  
SUDDENLY...

"IT'S  
DIFFICULT  
TO  
EXPLAIN."

...DISAPPEAR  
LIKE MAGIC.

INSIDE  
EVERYONE'S  
HEARTS...

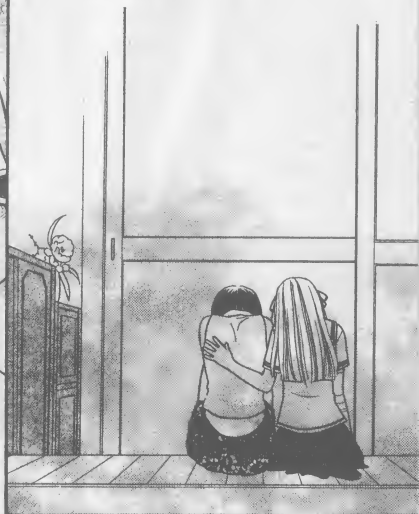
THE  
JUMBLED  
MESS IN MY  
HEART...

...WON'T GO  
AWAY.

SO MUCH...

...THERE MAY  
STILL BE PAIN.

PAIN THEY CAN'T  
TALK ABOUT.



DO  
YOU  
THINK  
...

...  
HARU  
...

THANK  
YOU...

...WILL BE  
DISAP-  
POINTED?

YOU  
DIDN'T DO  
ANYTHING  
WRONG.

ISUZU-  
SAN...

THANK  
YOU.

...WERE  
HURT IN  
MY PLACE.

YOU  
EVEN...



What?!

THAT  
WOULD  
NEVER  
HAPPEN!

YOU  
DON'T  
KNOW  
THAT.

NO, I DON'T  
NOT KNOW!  
THAT  
WOULD  
NEVER  
HAPPEN!

Sniffle  
sniffle

HOW  
CAN YOU  
SAY FOR  
SURE...?  
DON'T BE  
STUPID.

...IF HE'LL  
HATE ME.

Sniffle

I KNOW  
I CAN BE  
A REAL  
DOWNER.

SOME-  
TIMES  
I WONDER  
...

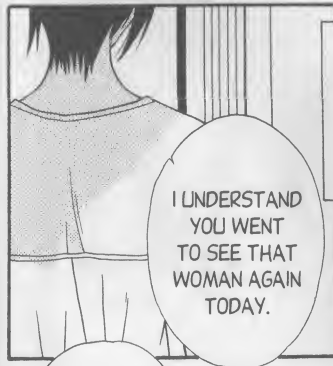
ARE THEY  
PLAYING?

DON'T YOU  
DARE, YOU  
IDIOT!

I  
THINK...

--OW!

THEN I'LL  
JUST GO  
ASK HIM TO  
PROVE IT TO  
YOU! I'LL ASK  
HATSU HARU-  
SAN RIGHT N--

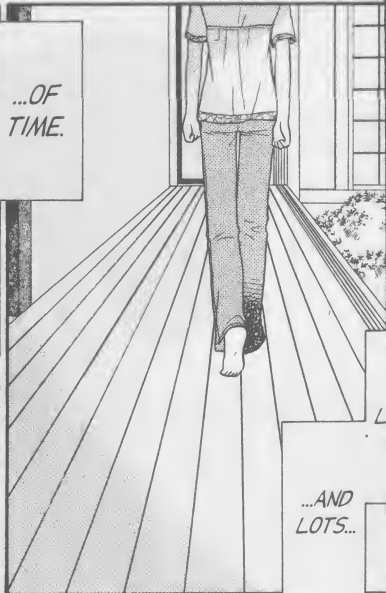


I UNDERSTAND  
YOU WENT  
TO SEE THAT  
WOMAN AGAIN  
TODAY.



THOUGH  
I HEARD THAT  
YOU COULDN'T  
HAVE A DECENT  
CONVERSATION  
WITH HER.

...OF  
TIME.



...THEY  
NEED  
TIME.

LOTS...

...AND  
LOTS...



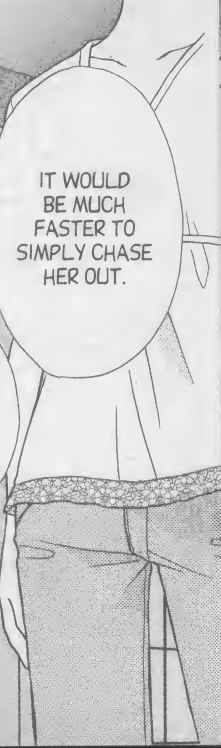
...BY DECIDING  
TO STAY  
HERE.




...IT'S POSSIBLE  
THAT YOU  
COMPLICATED  
THINGS...

ALTHOUGH...

IT WOULD  
BE MUCH  
FASTER TO  
SIMPLY CHASE  
HER OUT.





I DON'T  
KNOW ANY  
OTHER.

YOU  
KNOW...

IT'S MY  
WAY OF  
LIFE.

...I WAS  
ALSO BORN  
WITH THE  
SOHMA AND  
RAISED WITH  
THE SOHMA.

IT MUST  
BE NICE TO  
BE YOUNG.

YOU CAN  
CHANGE YOUR  
WAY OF LIFE  
SO EASILY.

I'VE BUILT  
THIS LIFE  
UP OVER...

BUT I...

LOOK AT  
MY AGE.

...FORTY  
...

...FIFTY...

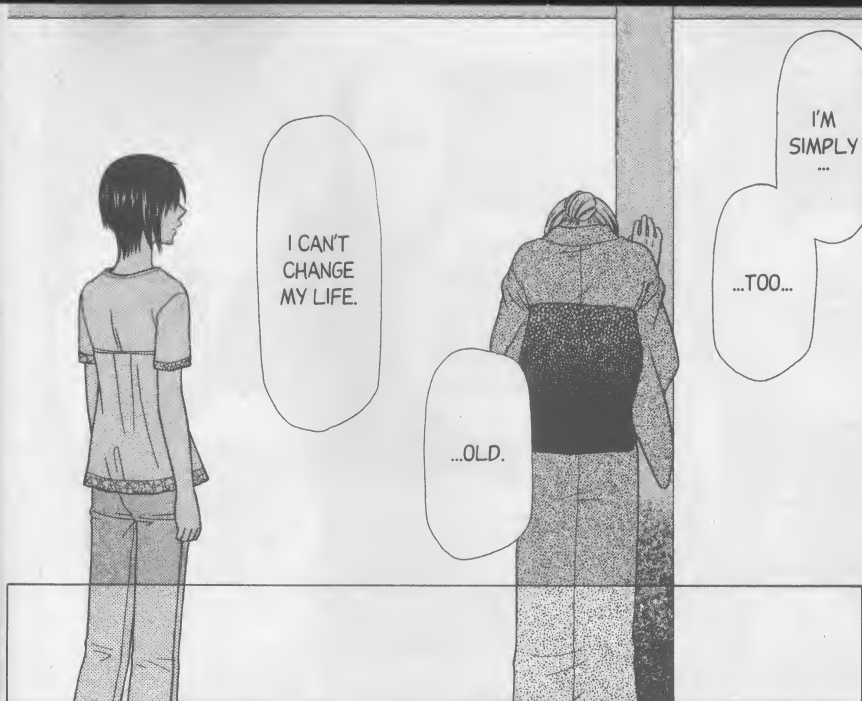
I'M...

I COULDN'T  
CHANGE MY  
LIFE NOW.

...SIXTY YEARS.  
IT'S TOO LATE  
TO CHANGE.

YOU HAVE  
THE WILL-  
POWER...

...AND THE  
PHYSICAL  
ENERGY  
FOR IT.



I CAN'T  
CHANGE  
MY LIFE.

...OLD.

I'M  
SIMPLY  
...

...TOO...



...A HAND  
TO REACH  
OUT TO  
YOU.

BUT  
YOU  
DON'T  
HAVE  
TO.

JUST A  
LITTLE IS  
ENOUGH.

MAYBE  
YOU  
NEED...

WELL.

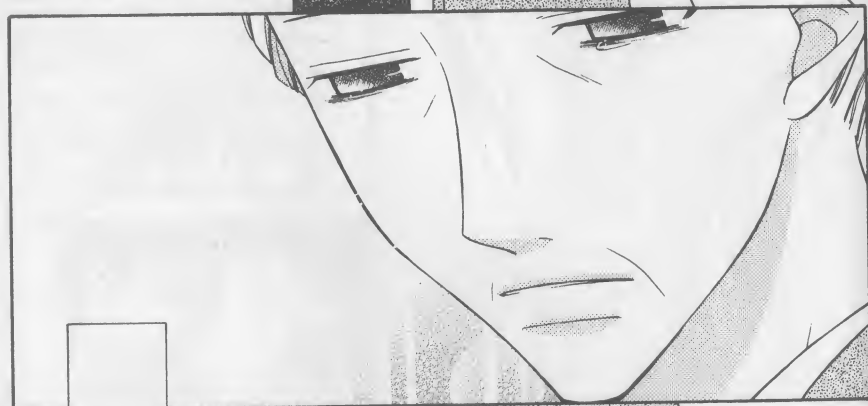
NO-  
BODY...

...CAN  
CHANGE  
EVERY-  
THING.



LIKE ME.

SOMEONE DID  
THAT FOR ME.



TOMORROW.



...WOULD  
BE A SAD  
LIE.

TO SAY  
EVERYTHING  
WOULD BE  
FIXED BY  
THEN...



OR EVEN  
THE DAY  
AFTER.



BUT  
STILL.



FOR  
NOW...

...THEY'RE  
NOT  
THERE.

NOT  
EVERYONE  
IS LINED  
UP...

...AND  
SMILING  
HAPPILY.



IT'S  
STILL A  
FAR-OFF  
DREAM.



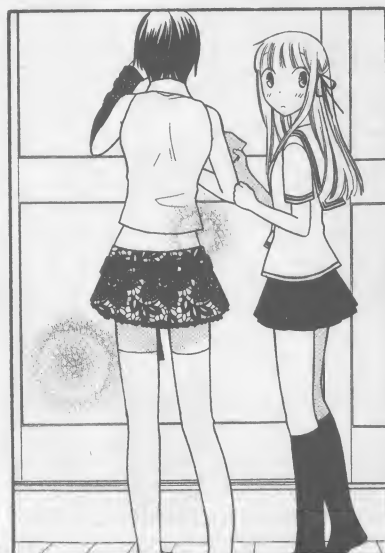
Sigh...

I WANT  
TO  
WORK.

I WON'T  
GIVE UP.

MAYBE I'M IN  
EVEN WORSE  
TROUBLE.

I'VE GOT  
GUYS AND  
GIRLS AS  
COMPETI-  
TION.



...THE  
DECADES...

I WANT  
TO  
TAKE  
THE  
YEARS...

...THAT  
IT TAKES  
TO THAW  
EVERYONE.





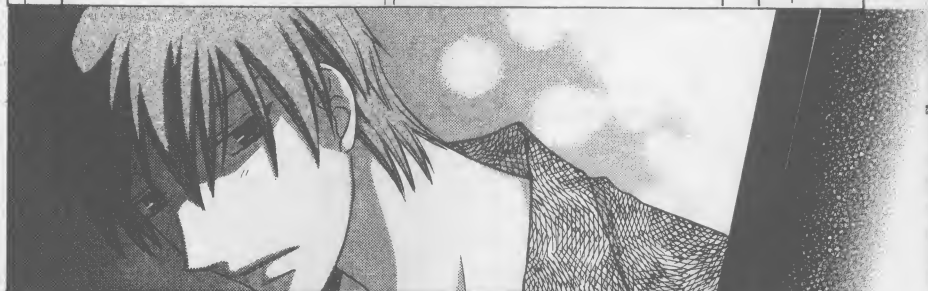
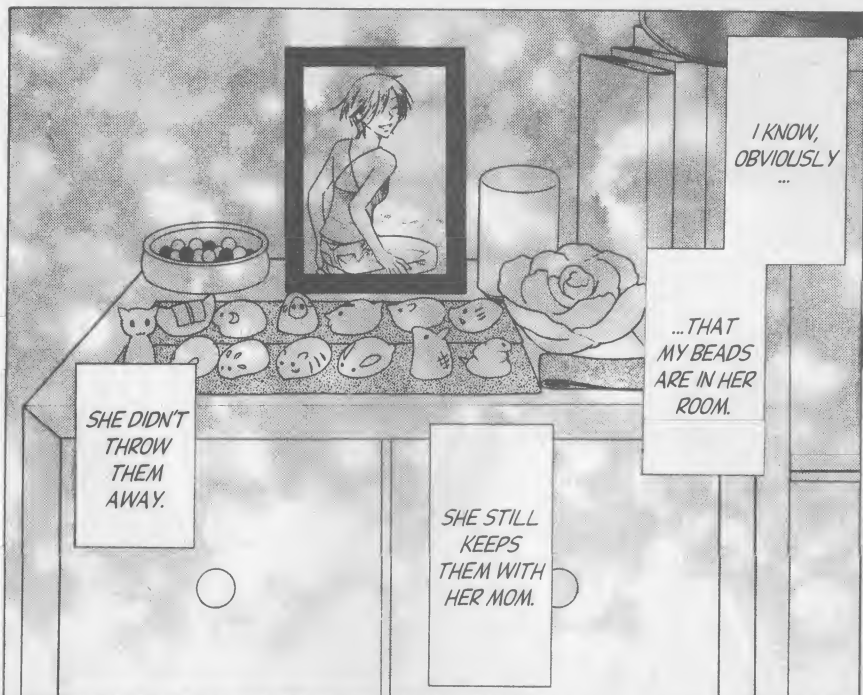
JUST SMILE  
FOR ME.

I'LL TAKE  
THAT...



...AND BE  
HAPPY  
WITH IT.







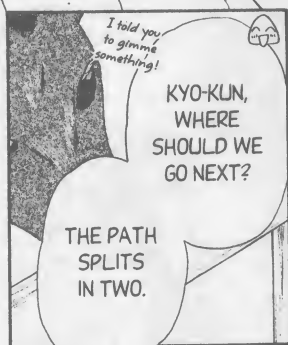
I THINK  
THAT'S  
EXACTLY...

...WHAT  
HER  
HEART'S  
LIKE.

KYO-KUN,  
PLEASE  
LOOK!

IT'S A MINI  
ISUZU-SAN...!

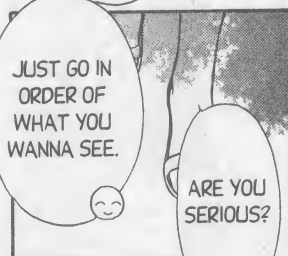
KYO-KUN!



*I told you  
to gimme  
something!*

KYO-KUN,  
WHERE  
SHOULD WE  
GO NEXT?

THE PATH  
SPLITS  
IN TWO.



JUST GO IN  
ORDER OF  
WHAT YOU  
WANNA SEE.

ARE YOU  
SERIOUS?



IT'S ONLY  
A PONY.

WHOA—  
IT'S TINY.

*Gimme  
something.*

IT'S SO  
CUTE!  
♡



NO ONE'S  
ASKING  
YOUR  
OPINION.

THEY DON'T  
HAVE  
GIRAFFES,  
HM...

THEN WE'D  
BETTER GET  
OUR BUTTS  
TO THE  
ELEPHANTS.



THIS  
PLACE HAS  
BEEN THE  
PROBLEM  
FROM THE  
BEGINNING.

IF YOU'RE GOING  
ON A FIRST  
DATE, THEN GO  
TO A THEME  
PARK OR  
SOMEWHERE  
FLASHY!



OR AT  
LEAST A  
BIGGER ZOO  
THAN--



KEEP  
YOUR  
VOICE  
DOWN.

AH-HA!



THEY DON'T  
HAVE  
GIRAFFES...

IF YOU'RE  
GONNA  
COMPLAIN,  
GO HOME.

No one invited  
you, anyway.

AH...

DON'T BE AN  
IDIOT. WHAT ARE  
WE GONNA SEE  
IF WE DON'T SEE  
ELEPHANTS?

AND IF THERE  
AREN'T ANY,  
THERE HAD  
BETTER BE  
POLAR BEARS.  
POLAR BEARS!

They're  
fighting!  
Stop  
fighting!



Akito

Even I didn't expect her to make friends with Hana-chan. (laugh)

- I think everyone knows her family make-up without my saying it. (laugh)
- It was fun to draw her as she grew more feminine...or, rather, drawing her as she softened little by little.
- She was a bit of a problem child within the work, but she didn't present any big problems to me as an artist, so I was able to draw her smoothly in the rough drafts.
- Like Tohru and the others, I can't really say much about Akito. It's not that I have nothing to say, just that I think it really would get in the way.
- I'd like to try drawing another character like Akito.








THIS IS  
EXHAUSTING.

EVEN WITH  
YOUR PANTS  
FALLING DOWN,  
YOU CAN'T HELP  
BUT PET CATS.

I LIKE  
ELEPHANTS,  
BUT CATS ARE  
GOOD TOO!



I LIKE THIS  
PLACE. IT'S  
RELAXING.

LET'S  
HAVE  
SOME ICE  
CREAM  
LATER.

AND THE  
FACT THAT  
THIS PLACE  
DOESN'T HAVE  
GIRAFFES  
MAKES ME  
LOVE IT  
EVEN MORE.

HEY, KYON!  
WE'RE LEAVING  
YOU BEHIND.


Is that right?

DON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT IT.

BUT YOU  
SAID WE  
SHOULD  
HAVE GONE  
SOMEWHERE  
ELSE...

UM...  
UO-CHAN,  
HANA-  
CHAN.

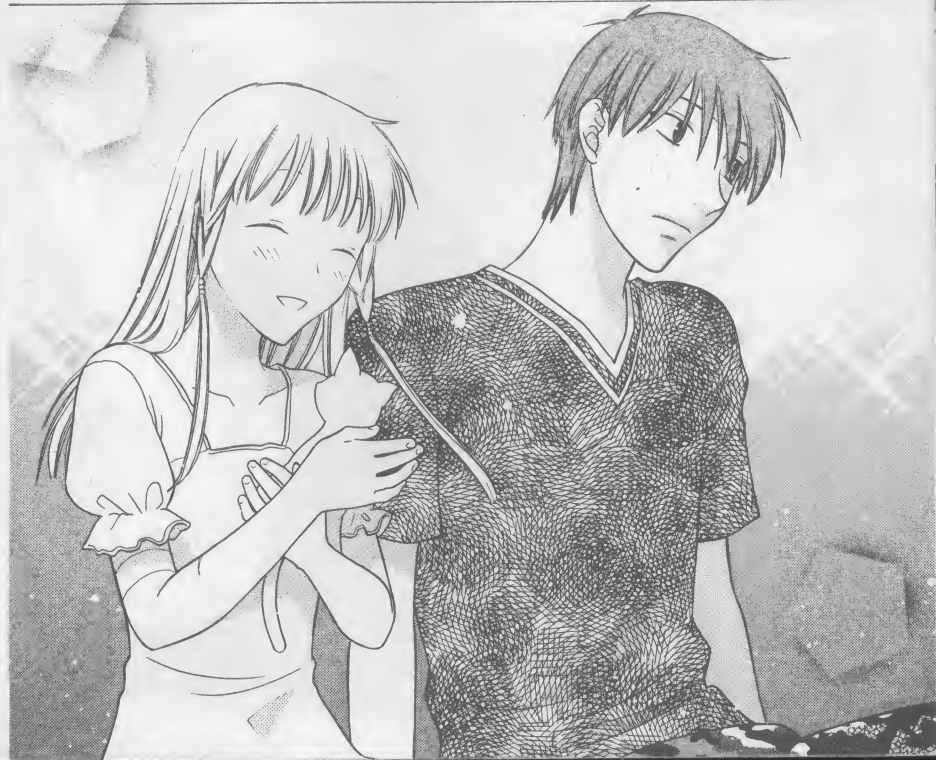
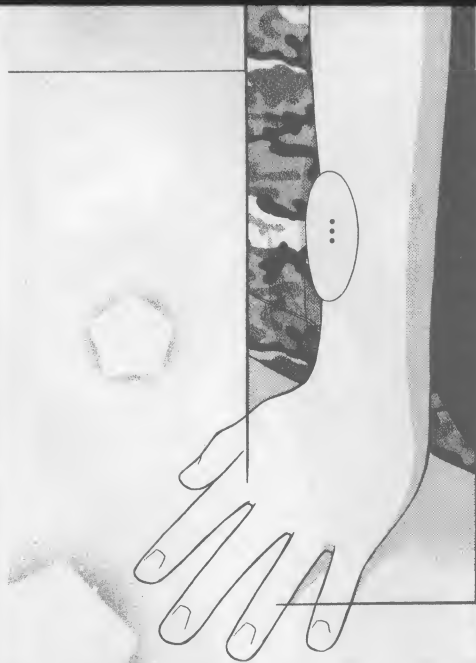
I WAS THE  
ONE WHO  
WANTED TO  
COME HERE.

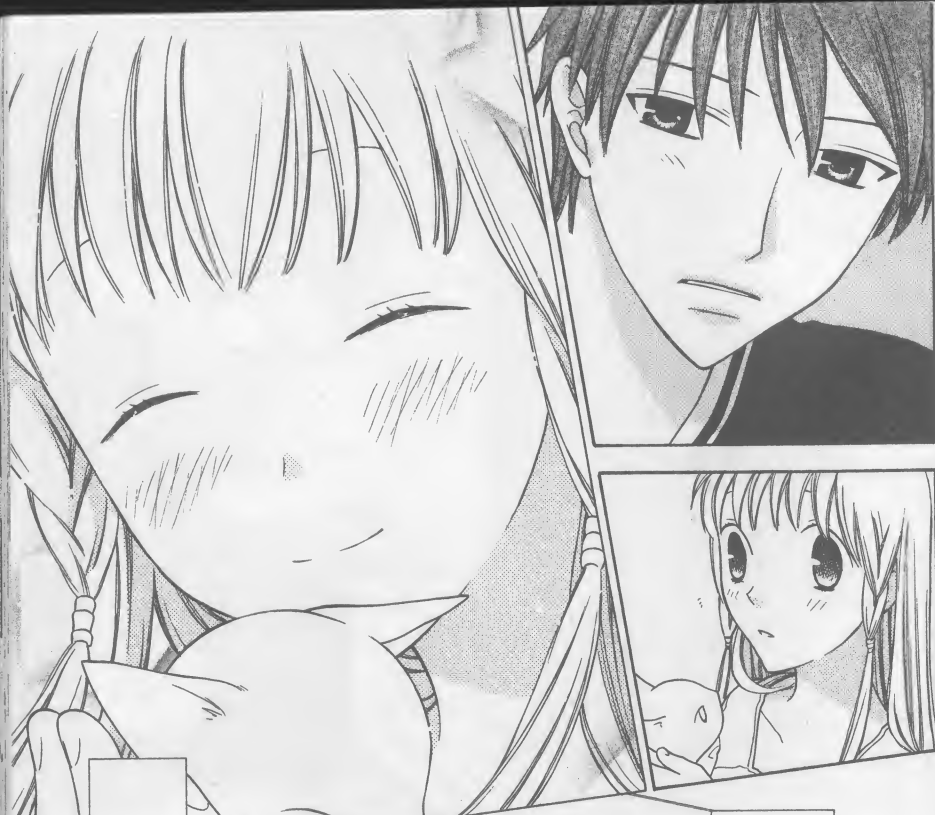


WE'RE JUST  
GIVING HIM A  
HARD TIME.









THAT  
DAY...

...WHEN I  
PULLED  
MY BEADS  
APART...



...AS TOHRU  
PICKED THEM  
ALL UP.



...I  
WATCHED  
QUIETLY...



THEY WERE  
PROOF THAT  
I WAS A  
MONSTER.

BUT I STILL  
COULDN'T  
MOVE.

EVEN NOW I  
WOULDN'T  
MIND IF SHE  
THREW THEM  
INTO A FIRE.

BUT  
AFTER  
A FEW  
YEARS...

...MAYBE  
I'D GROW  
TO REGRET  
NOT HAVING  
PICKED  
THEM UP.

...BOTH THE ME OF  
NOW AND THE ME  
OF THE FUTURE.

SHE PICKED THEM  
UP FOR ME.

AND IT WAS LIKE SHE  
WAS PROTECTING...

I HONESTLY  
THOUGHT  
THAT AT  
THE TIME.



I DON'T REALLY  
KNOW.

BUT I DO  
KNOW ONE  
THING.

I KNOW...

...THAT  
"LOVING"  
SOMEONE...

...ISN'T ALWAYS  
JUST LOVING  
WHAT'S RIGHT  
IN FRONT  
OF YOU.

THERE'S  
ALSO  
THE  
PAST...

...AND  
THE  
FUTURE.

...OF ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO LIVED  
WITH THOSE BEADS ON.

EVERY LAST ONE.

OR EVEN..

...SOME-  
THING  
MORE  
DISTANT.

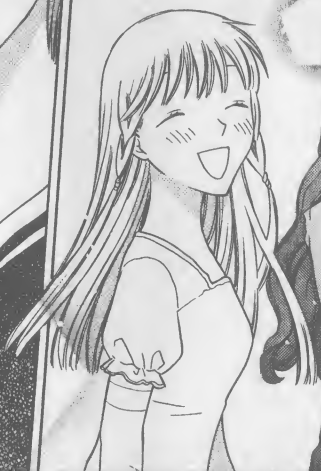
SOMETHING  
BEYOND ME.

MAYBE SHE WAS  
TRYING TO PICK  
UP THE FAR-OFF  
FEELINGS...

LOVING SOMEONE MEANS  
EMBRACING IT ALL.



WHEN I LOOK  
AT HER...



THAT'S  
WHAT I  
THINK,  
ANYWAY.







I DIDN'T  
THINK YOU'D  
APPLY FOR A  
COLLEGE THAT  
FAR AWAY,  
YUN-YUN.

WELL...

They have some  
subjects I'm  
interested in.

I'LL BE  
LIVING ON  
MY OWN  
STARTING  
THIS SPRING.



CAN YOU?

I DON'T WANNA  
GO VISIT YOU  
AND FIND A  
DEAD BODY.



Huh?

SERIOUSLY?

...THAT'S WHAT I THINK.







...THE  
STAIRWAY TO  
ADULTHOOD

I GUESS  
YOU'VE  
CLIMBED...

IF YOU SAID  
THAT TO  
MACHI, SHE'D  
DEFINITELY  
HURT YOU.



YOU KNOW  
WHAT THEY  
SAY--  
"LEARN BY  
DOING."

DOES CHII-  
CHAN KNOW  
ABOUT THIS?

*I'd like to  
try it.*



*\*Chii-chan = Machi*

OOHHH?  
OOHHH?  
OOHHH?

*Oh,  
good!*

SHE KNOWS.  
SHE'S OKAY  
WITH IT.



I TALKED TO  
NII-SAN...

UH-OH.

BUT THINGS ARE  
KINDA CHAOTIC  
AT HOME RIGHT  
NOW...AND IT'S  
NOT THE TIME  
FOR ME TO ASK  
FOR THINGS.

I DID  
CONSIDER  
ASKING  
THEM.



YOUR  
PARENTS?

*They're  
the ones  
you wanna  
rely on  
the least.*

WHO ARE  
YOU GONNA  
GET TO  
COSIGN?

But...  
WILL YOU  
BE OKAY?  
FINDING AN  
APARTMENT  
AND EVERY-  
THING?



HE  
MOVES  
FAST!

HE LEFT ON A  
LITTLE TRIP  
YESTERDAY  
AND SAID HE'D  
LOOK FOR AN  
APARTMENT  
FOR ME WHILE  
HE'S THERE.

I DO  
APPRECIATE  
IT, BUT...

STEP!

BEHOLD,  
MINE!



EXACTLY.

HE GOT ALL  
EXCITED AND  
CRAZY ON YA.

LET ME  
GUESS.



IT'S TRUE.

I DECLARE THIS VERY  
MOMENT THAT I  
HAVE PERCEIVED IT,  
I HAVE JUDGED IT,  
AND I HAVE ACTED!

THE CLEAR,  
BLUE SKY!  
THE BUDDING  
GREENERY!

YOU CANNOT HELP  
BUT ACKNOWLEDGE  
THIS LAND AS  
TRULY FITTING FOR  
YUKI'S EMPIRE!

STOP  
CHEERING--  
THIS ISN'T A  
RESIDENCE!

HUZZAH!

It's a maid-san!  
A maid-san!

A maid and  
her master!

Who are you  
people?!

I WILL  
ESTABLISH THIS  
PLACE WITH  
A SOUNDING  
CRASH AS YUKI'S  
PALACE!

AH,  
C'MON--YOU'VE  
GOTTA START  
DREAMING BIG.

I HOPE THEY'RE  
STARTING AT  
NORMAL PLACES...  
BUT I'M NOT  
HOLDING MY  
BREATH.

I WAS PLANNING  
TO TAKE OVER  
KOMAKI'S FAMILY  
BUSINESS WHEN  
I GRADUATED.

BUT IT'S NOT  
LIKE I WANT  
TO GO.

BUT  
EVERYBODY  
KEEPS  
TELLING  
ME TO GO.

We run a  
laundry  
service.

COME TO  
THINK OF IT,  
WHAT ARE  
YOUR PLANS,  
KAKERU?

ABOUT  
COLLEGE,  
I MEAN.

I'LL GO.

Somewhere  
nearby.

HUH?

KEEP  
TALKING  
LIKE  
THAT...

JUST LIKE YOU'VE  
EXPERIENCED A LOT  
OF THINGS WITH YOUR  
PART-TIME JOBS,  
THERE ARE SOME  
THINGS YOU CAN ONLY  
GET AT COLLEGE.

...AND YOUR  
BOYFRIEND'S  
GONNA END  
UP HAVING AN  
AFFAIR WITH  
A COLLEGE  
GIRL!

YOU'RE  
TALKING IN  
THE THIRD  
PERSON.

*Aaah, there  
goes all that  
money...*

OR  
SOME-  
THING.

SO  
I GUESS  
I'LL JUST  
HAVE  
TO GO.

IF CIRCUM-  
STANCES ALLOW  
YOU TO GO, YOU  
SHOULD GO.

*You're  
smart.  
you know.*

I'VE BEEN  
MEANING  
TO ASK  
YOU TWO.

*Lies.*

*You're  
more likely  
to cheat on  
your girl,  
Yun-Yun.*

ARE EITHER  
OF YOU  
NERVOUS...

...THAT YOU  
MIGHT NOT  
GET INTO  
COLLEGE?

WELL,  
"DUMB" IS A  
GOOD WORD  
FOR IT.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
THINK OF  
OUR DUMB  
COUPLE  
ACT?!

IT'S OKAY...  
I'VE NEVER  
BEEN WORRIED  
ABOUT THAT  
KIND OF THING.



Oh...

IF OTHER  
ENTRANCE  
EXAM  
STUDENTS  
HEARD THAT,  
I BET THEY'D  
GET MAD.

NO.



Oh...

MAY I STOP  
BY THE  
RESTROOM  
BEFORE WE  
GO HOME?

WILL YOU  
BE ALL  
RIGHT BY  
YOURSELF?



Yes! I'll  
be right  
back!

Nngh...

THIS  
IS SO  
TIRING.



AAAAH!

WE SURE  
DID WALK  
A LOT.

BUT  
IT WAS  
FUN.

YES,  
VERY!

DON'T READ  
MY MIND!

IT'S  
THROUGH  
SHEER  
FORCE OF  
WILL.

CRAP!

STILL.

Glance

HOW THE  
HELL CAN SHE  
ALWAYS DRESS  
LIKE THAT AND  
NEVER SWEAT  
A DROP?

IS SHE  
HUMAN?

LOOK, JUST...  
SWEAT LIKE  
NORMAL.  
IT'S OKAY.

I'M FAR  
BEYOND  
YOUR  
LIMITED  
CAPA-  
BILITIES.

Far beyond.

YOU CAN DO  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT THAT  
WITH SHEER  
FORCE OF  
WILL?!

WAIT...

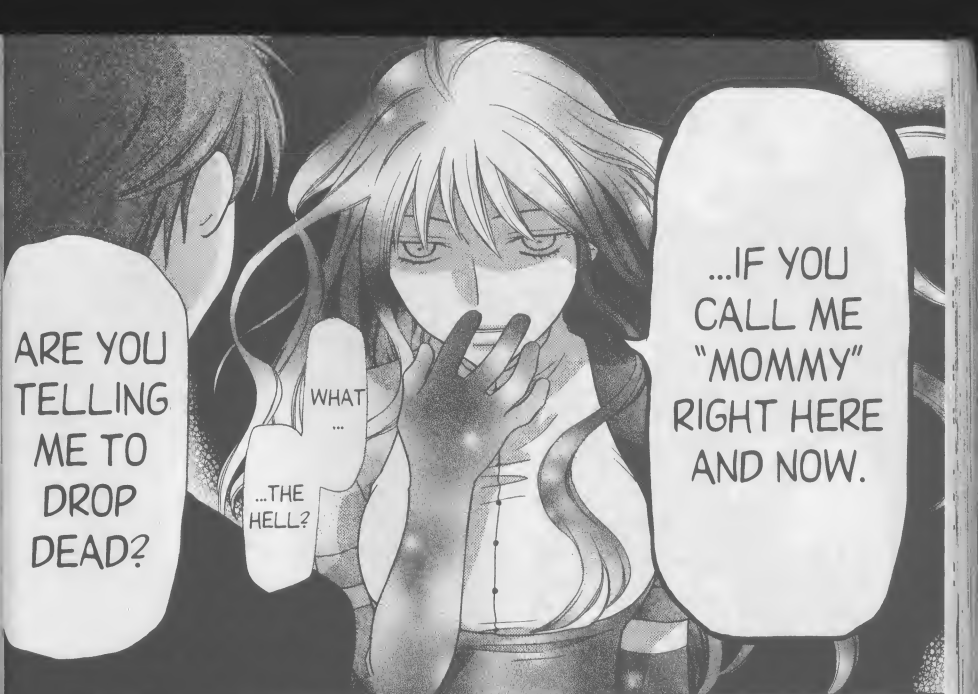
WH-  
WHAT?

TWITCH

HUH?

STARE

...



ARE YOU  
TELLING  
ME TO  
DROP  
DEAD?

WHAT  
...  
...THE  
HELL?

...IF YOU  
CALL ME  
"MOMMY"  
RIGHT HERE  
AND NOW.




SHE JUST  
GRUNTED  
AT ME!

I SUP-  
POSE.

HNNGH.

CUT HIM SOME  
SLACK--WE'VE  
MESSED WITH  
HIM ENOUGH.



WE CAN'T  
SEEM TO  
HATE YOU,  
EVEN THOUGH  
YOU'RE A  
COMPLETE  
DUMBASS.

I THINK  
IT'S 'CAUSE  
YOU'RE A  
GOOD GUY.

HEY, KYON.  
WE MAY NOT  
LOOK IT...

...BUT WE  
LIKE YOU.





SHE'S  
OUR BEST  
FRIEND.

ABOUT  
TOHRU.

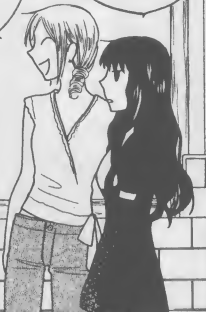
ONE OF  
US.

Y'KNOW--  
FAMILY.



TOTALLY  
STUPID!

EVEN IF  
YOU ARE  
STUPID.



WE  
REALLY,  
SERIOUSLY  
...



...WANT  
YOU TO  
TAKE GOOD  
CARE OF  
HER. GOT  
THAT?

Does  
it?

No!

TH-THAT  
HAS  
NOTHING  
TO DO  
WITH...

...  
THIS.

AND YOU  
CAN LEAVE  
YOUR FATHER  
TO ME.

...  
HOME.

Um...  
WHERE  
DID THEY  
GO?

I'M SO  
SORRY! AND  
THIS IS ALL  
BECAUSE  
I MADE THEM  
WAIT!

What?!

CALM  
DOWN-IT  
REALLY  
WASN'T  
THAT.

And she  
wants me  
to call her  
Mommy?

No, they can't. But it's just my ego saying they can't, and Shishou should be the one who decides what makes him happy, and if he likes her, it doesn't matter what I want, and--huh? Are they really that far along?

I'M SORRY  
I TOOK SO  
LONG!

IT  
WAS VERY  
CROWD--

HUH?

UH...

HERE.

MY  
FAMILY  
SENT ME  
THIS.

IT'S...

...MEAT.

I hope  
that's okay.

Ugh  
TOHRU.

THERE'S  
ONE MORE  
PLACE  
I WANNA  
STOP BY  
BEFORE WE  
GO HOME.

OF COURSE--  
I DON'T MIND.

IS  
THAT  
OKAY?

WHERE ARE  
WE GOING?





THE  
MEAT!

THAT'S  
WHAT  
YOU'RE  
WORRIED  
ABOUT?

...I  
WARNED  
YOU.

.....



I'M  
GONNA  
FINISH  
NOW.

WELL,  
HERE.

...TO  
TELL YOU  
SOMETHING  
BEFORE,  
REMEMBER?

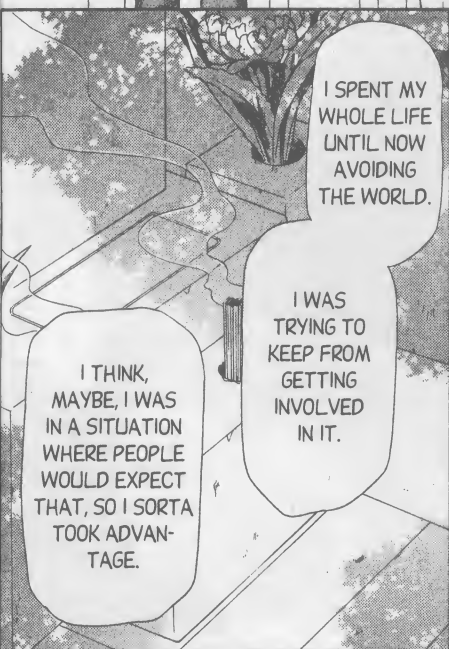
I  
STARTED  
...



...I THINK  
I WANNA  
LEAVE  
HERE.

I...

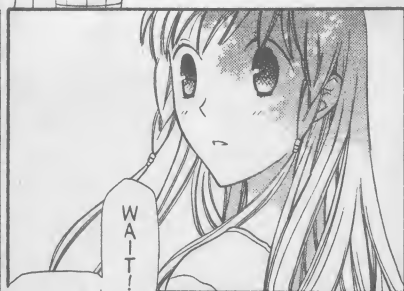
AFTER I  
GRADUATE  
...



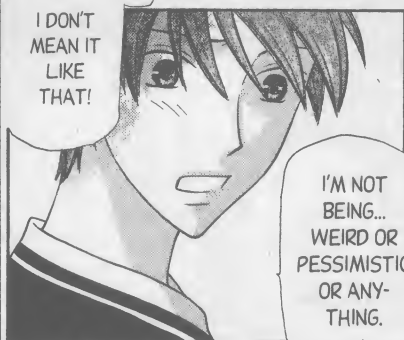
I SPENT MY  
WHOLE LIFE  
UNTIL NOW  
AVOIDING  
THE WORLD.

I WAS  
TRYING TO  
KEEP FROM  
GETTING  
INVOLVED  
IN IT.

I THINK,  
MAYBE, I WAS  
IN A SITUATION  
WHERE PEOPLE  
WOULD EXPECT  
THAT, SO I SORTA  
TOOK ADVAN-  
TAGE.



WAIT!



I DON'T  
MEAN IT  
LIKE  
THAT!

I'M NOT  
BEING...  
WEIRD OR  
PESSIMISTIC  
OR ANY-  
THING.



I WANNA...

...GET MORE  
INVOLVED IN  
EVERYTHING.

...TEST  
MYSELF  
MORE.

IN  
PLACES  
OTHER  
THAN  
THIS.

THAT  
MAKES ME  
HAPPY.

REALLY  
HAPPY.

SO I  
WANNA...

BUT  
THINGS ARE  
DIFFERENT  
NOW.

I'M A  
NORMAL  
PERSON.

AND I  
CAN LIVE  
IN THE  
WORLD...

...WITH  
YOU...

...LIKE A  
NORMAL  
PERSON.





.....

AND  
IF IT'S  
OKAY...

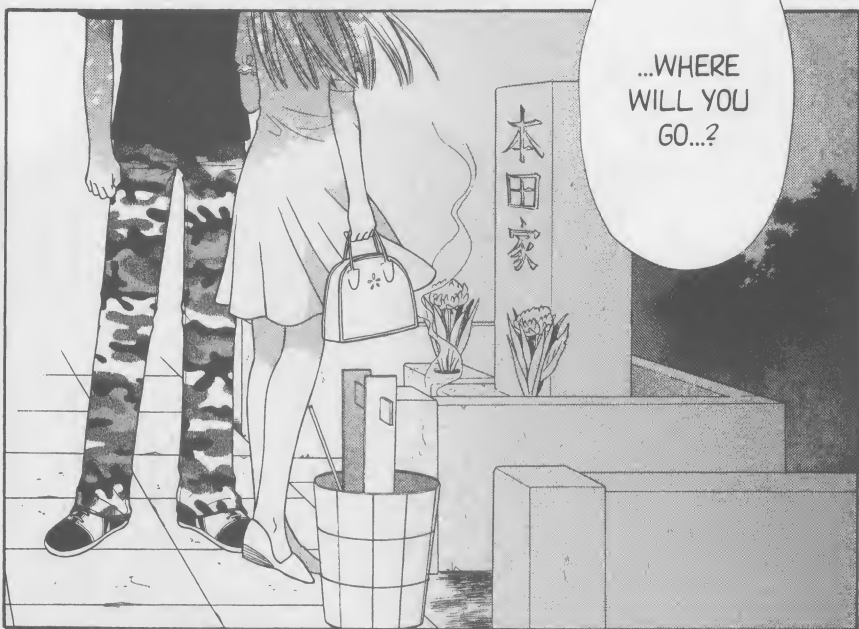
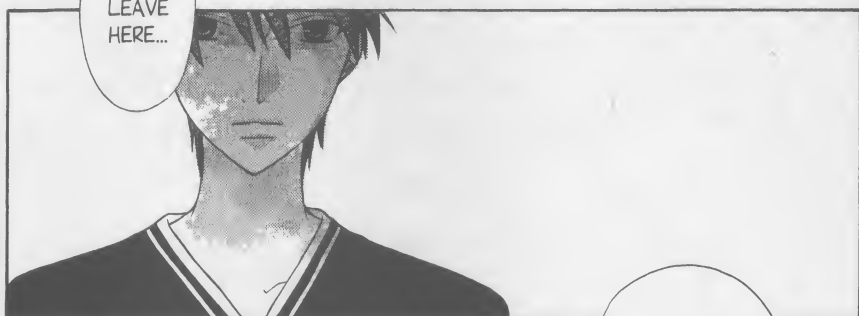
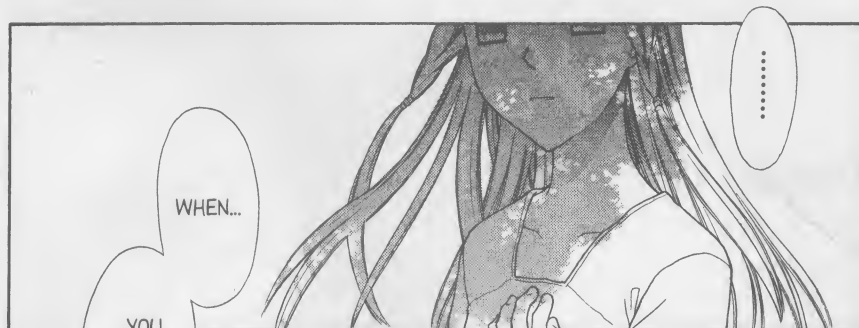
...I WANNA  
DO ALL  
THAT...

...  
TOGETHER  
WITH YOU.




## Chapter 135







SHISHOU...



I ONCE  
TRIED TO FIND  
SOMEWHERE  
ON MY OWN,  
WITHOUT  
RELYING ON  
ANY OF THAT  
STUFF.

...

LEMME  
EXPLAIN  
SOME-  
THING.

BUT HE  
STOPPED ME,  
OBVIOUSLY.



IT'S  
REALLY...



...FAR  
FROM  
HERE.



SHISHOU  
...

...KNOWS  
SOMEONE  
WITH A  
DOJO.



AND I  
HAVE TO BE  
PREPARED.

NO  
MATTER  
WHAT  
THEY'RE  
LIKE.

I THINK  
EXPERI-  
ENCES I  
GET OUT-  
SIDE...

...WILL  
COME IN  
HANDY.

AFTER  
ALL...

I'LL GO  
THERE  
FIRST.

I CAN  
ATTEND THE  
DOJO WHILE  
WORKING.

...ONE  
DAY, I'LL  
INHERIT  
SHISHOU'S  
DOJO.

木田家

THE  
STUFF I'M  
SAYING...

.....  
I KNOW.

...  
PROBABLY  
SOUNDS  
REALLY  
NAÏVE.

I KNOW  
IT IS.

THAT'S  
SELFISH  
OF ME.

AND I KNOW  
I SHOULDN'T  
PULL YOU  
AWAY FROM  
EVERYONE  
WHO LIKES  
YOU.

BOTH  
THE  
GOOD...

...AND  
THE  
BAD.

YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

...A LIFE  
WHERE I'M  
FOOLING  
MYSELF.

BUT I DON'T  
WANNA KEEP  
LIVING...

WHEN YOU  
TOLD HIM  
THAT.

HUH?

OH...YEAH,  
I GUESS.

MAY I SAY  
SOMETHING  
CONCEITED?

I THINK...

KYO-KUN.

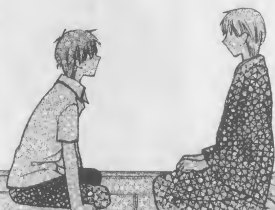


SHISHOU-  
SAN...

...MUST HAVE  
BEEN HAPPY  
FOR YOU.



THERE'S NOT  
A SINGLE  
REASON YOU  
NEED TO FOOL  
YOURSELF.



...I UNDER-  
STAND...

...HOW HE  
FEELS.







HE'S TALKING  
ABOUT THE FUTURE.

HE WANTS...

...TO LIVE.

I'M SO  
HAPPY.

I'M SO  
HAPPY.

I'LL GO  
WITH  
YOU...!

WE'LL GO  
TOGETHER.

I'LL GO.

AND WE  
MIGHT BE  
LIVING A  
REALLY  
POOR LIFE.

IT'S FAR  
AWAY. YOU  
WON'T BE  
ABLE TO SEE  
EVERYBODY  
AS MUCH AS  
YOU DO NOW,  
Y'KNOW?!

YOU WILL?!  
Y-YOU KNOW  
WHAT THAT  
MEANS, RIGHT?

...  
HUH?

HUH?!

No, but I'll  
work as  
hard as  
I can!

ER...YEAH,  
I GUESS  
THAT'S TRUE.

Eh  
heh  
heh

I'M  
PRETTY  
STUBBORN.

I MAY NOT  
LOOK IT, BUT  
IF THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
I SHOULDN'T  
BACK DOWN  
FROM, I'LL  
NEVER BACK  
DOWN.

?

YOU'RE  
THE ONE  
WHO SAID  
"TOGETHER,"  
KYO-KUN.

I-I KNOW,  
BUT...

...I STILL  
WANT TO  
TELL YOU.

THERE'S  
JUST ONE  
THING...

IT'S  
OKAY.

I CAN  
MAKE  
MY OWN  
DECISIONS.

...I DIDN'T  
THINK YOU'D  
ANSWER  
RIGHT AWAY.

MAYBE YOU  
SHOULD THINK  
ABOUT IT MORE.  
AND IF YOU  
DON'T WANNA  
DO IT, YOU CAN  
TURN ME DOWN.



EVEN IF  
SHE DID  
SAY...

...SHE  
WOULDN'T  
FORGIVE  
YOU...

...SHE DIDN'T  
SAY IT OUT  
OF HATE.


I KNOW  
IT.



I  
KNOW  
IT.



I'M SURE  
MOM NEVER  
HATED YOU,  
KYO-KUN.



...BE BY  
YOUR SIDE.

I WANT  
TO ALWAYS

...

I DON'T  
WANT TO  
BE APART.

I DON'T  
WANT TO  
WAIT FOR  
YOU.

I KNOW THAT  
LEAVING  
EVERYONE...

...WILL BE  
REALLY  
SAD.

BUT  
I CAN'T  
BE APART  
FROM YOU,  
KYO-KUN.

THAT WOULD  
BREAK MY HEART  
EVEN WORSE.



I WON'T  
...

...BACK  
DOWN.



AND  
I'LL GO.

TOGETHER  
WITH YOU.



PLEASE  
TAKE ME  
WITH YOU.





LISTEN...

.....

...I'LL  
TAKE YOU  
WITH ME.

I'LL  
KEEP...

...MY  
PROMISE.

THANK  
YOU...

IT TOOK ME...  
A REALLY  
LONG TIME.







BUT  
NOW I'LL  
KEEP IT...

...MY  
WHOLE  
LIFE.

OKAY?

...





...CRAP.

4

ア  
ア  
...

WHY IS IT  
SO DARK?

IT'S  
WARM...

CRAP.  
WHAT DO  
I DO?

WHY IS IT  
SO QUIET?

...AND  
COLD.

THIS...

THIS IS BAD.  
I MEAN...

SERIOUSLY--  
WHY?

THIS ISN'T  
GOOD.

...I CAN'T  
HEAR  
ANYTHING.

THIS ISN'T  
FOR REAL,  
RIGHT?

IT DOESN'T  
EVEN HURT.

TOHRLI.

WHAT  
DO I--  
NO.

NO! I DON'T  
WANNA DIE.

I DON'T.  
I MEAN, THAT'S  
BAD.

TOHRLI...

WHAT  
DO I DO?

I DIDN'T  
THINK...

...IT WOULD  
END LIKE  
THIS.

...I'M  
DYING.

I  
THINK...





YOU  
DON'T SAY  
GOODBYE  
TO PEOPLE  
LIKE THIS.

IF I'M  
GONE...

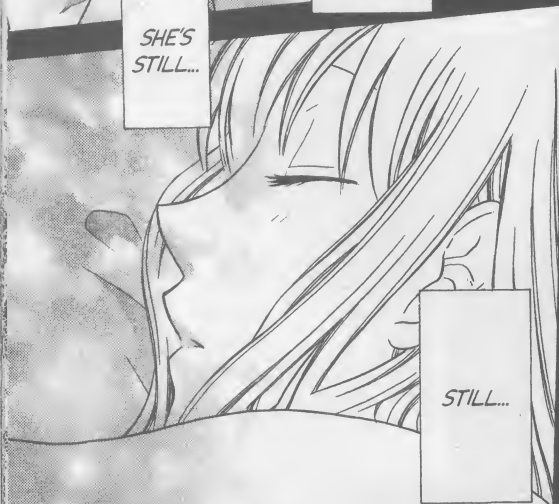
...WHAT'S  
GONNA  
HAPPEN  
TO HER?

SHE ONLY  
JUST GOT  
INTO HIGH  
SCHOOL.



SHE'S  
STILL  
A KID.

SHE'S  
STILL...



STILL...

I DON'T WANT TO  
LEAVE HER ALONE.

THIS CAN'T BE  
HAPPENING!



LEAVING PEOPLE  
BEHIND, BEING  
LEFT BEHIND.

KATSUYA.

THEY'RE BOTH...

I...  
I UNDERSTAND  
NOW.

...SO HARD.

I'M  
SORRY.

I'M  
SORRY.

TOHRLI.

...LOVE  
YOU  
ENOUGH?

I'M  
SORRY,  
TOHRLI.  
DID I...

YOU  
KNOW, I...



...I WANTED  
TO LOVE  
YOU SO  
MUCH  
MORE.



PROTECT  
HER.

SOMEBODY,  
PLEASE...

SOME-  
BODY.

HEY...



...STAY  
WITH HER.

BUT STILL,  
IF SHE IS  
CRYING...

SHE'S  
NOT VERY  
GOOD...

...AT  
CRYING FOR  
HERSELF.



SOME-  
BODY...

SOME-  
BODY...

PROTECT...

...MY  
TREA-  
SURE.

HEY--  
ANYBODY.

PLEASE.  
SOMEBODY.









EVEN IF...

...YOU FORGET  
ME...

IF YOU SEE HER,  
PLEASE...

REMEMBER.

PLEASE.

THE NEXT  
TIME SHE  
GETS LOST...

...YOU HAVE  
TO FIND HER.

PLEASE.

YOU...

JUST ONCE  
IS ENOUGH.

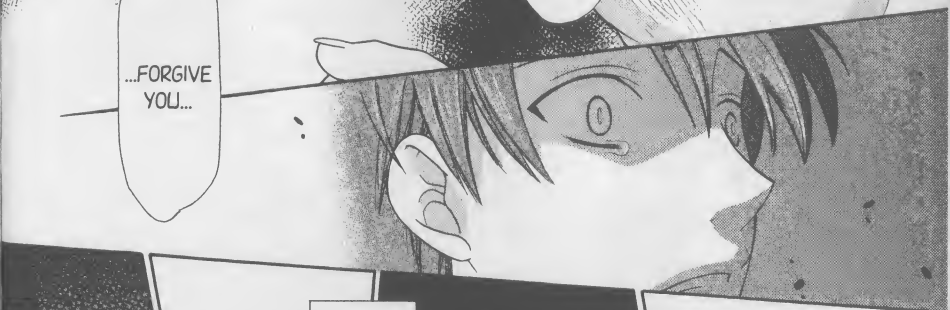


IF YOU...

...DON'T PAY YOUR TAB...

I WON'T...

...FORGIVE  
YOU...



SOME-  
HOW...

...TAKE MY  
PLACE.

PLEASE.

PLEASE.





PLEASE...

I'M  
SORRY.

I GUESS  
THIS IS  
GOODBYE.

IT FEELS  
LIKE...

...I'M  
SINKING.

IT'S ALL  
CLOSING  
DOWN.

AND  
PROTECT  
HER.

...OH.



IT LOOKS  
LIKE THE  
DRIVER'S  
UNCON-  
SCIOUS  
TOO!

AN  
AMBU-  
LANCE!

...LET  
TOHRU BE  
HAPPY.

PLEASE  
LET HER...

HOLD  
ON!

DID ANYONE  
CALL AN  
AMBULANCE?!

CAN YOU  
HEAR ME?!  
HOLD ON!

...BE LOVED  
BY A LOT  
OF PEOPLE.

...SHE CAN  
BE PROUD  
OF HAVING  
LIVED HER  
LIFE.

HANG IN  
THERE!

THERE'S  
SO MUCH  
BLOOD!

...IN  
THE  
END...

...OR  
WHEN  
SHE  
MAKES  
A MIS-  
TAKE...

SO  
EVEN  
WHEN  
SHE'S  
LOST...

JUST  
HANG IN  
THERE  
...!

... "YOU DID  
GOOD."

...SO THAT  
PEOPLE  
CAN TELL  
HER...

I WANT HER  
TO LIVE...



...IT'S  
NO USE.

SHE'S  
ALREADY...



REPEAT  
THE  
GOOD.

AND THE  
BAD.

JUST  
HOLD--

DO IT  
ALL...

...AND PILE  
ON THE  
YEARS.



...















*YOU DID  
GOOD.*

Kyo is a type of character I hadn't drawn much in the past, so when I started the series, I was nervous about whether or not I could draw him well. But before I knew it, he was a powerful force that pulled Furuba along. Thank you. I feel like he'll be a kind father.





Final  
Chapter





Tohru is the girl I had the most to say about (enough to take all night-- (laugh), but she's also the one I feel I should talk about the least...because I feel like the main character of the story doesn't belong to me alone. I'm glad I could give birth to Tohru. I will treasure her my whole life.

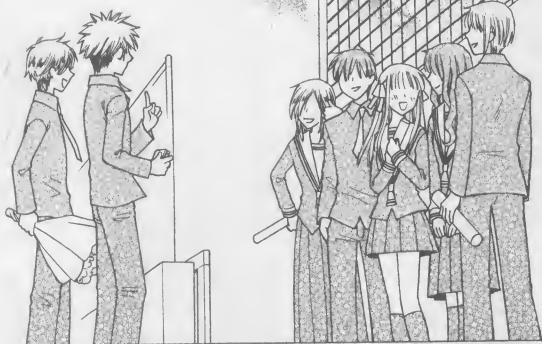


ON THE DAY OF GRADUATION, THERE  
WAS A PERFECTLY SUNNY SKY.

THE WIND WAS GENTLE AND THE  
FLOWING CLOUDS WERE SO PRETTY.

IT WAS LIKE THEY WERE  
ALL BLESSING...

...OUR GRADUATIONS AND  
NEW BEGINNINGS.



ALL  
RIGHT.

...YES!

INCLUDING OURS.

SQUAK

THAT DAY WAS  
ALSO THE START...

...OF MY NEW  
BEGINNING WITH  
KYO-KUN.

IT LOOKS  
REALLY  
EMPTY NOW,  
HUH?

YES...!

NOW WE'RE  
ALMOST DONE  
CLEANING  
THE ROOM!



IT'S  
STRANGE.

IT SOMEHOW  
REMINDS  
ME OF THE  
FIRST DAY...

...I CAME  
INTO THIS  
ROOM.



YOUR  
ROOM IS  
EMPTY TOO,  
KYO-KUN!

WELL,  
THERE'S  
NOTHING  
FOR ME  
TO LEAVE  
HERE.

AND  
WE'LL BE  
STAYING AT  
SHISHOU'S  
PLACE  
TONIGHT.



KYO-KUN  
BROKE THE  
ROOF!

ACK.

I GUESS  
I DID.

NNGH.



IT WAS  
SO  
MUCH  
FUN.



AND I  
WAS SO  
SURPRISED.

THEN  
EVERYONE  
TRANS-  
FORMED,  
AND I WAS  
EVEN MORE  
SURPRISED.

BUT  
STILL...



YUKI-  
KUN AND  
SHIGURE-  
SAN...

...WERE  
SO KIND  
TO ME.

I WAS  
VERY  
NERVOUS.

AND  
THEN...



...PRECIOUS  
AND DEAR.

THEY WERE  
SO DEAR  
TO ME.

I...

...HAD  
FUN  
HERE.

LIKE  
JEWELS...

I LOVED  
THE DAYS I  
SPENT WITH  
EVERYONE.



I WILL  
MISS  
THEM...

...



...AFTER  
ALL.

*...THE HARDER  
IT IS TO SAY  
GOODBYE.*

*CAN I  
THINK LIKE  
THAT...*

*...BECAUSE  
I LOVED  
THOSE  
DAYS?*

*YOU JUST  
DON'T  
GET IT...*

*...DO YOU?*

*THE MORE  
YOU LOVE  
SOMETHING...*

*I'LL  
MISS  
THEM.*





SO  
STOP  
WORRY-  
ING.

YOU'RE  
NOT SAYING  
GOODBYE FOR  
THE REST OF  
YOUR LIFE.



LOOK.

YOU  
DON'T  
REALIZE  
HOW  
MUCH...



SERIOUSLY.

...  
EVERY-  
BODY  
LOVES  
YOU.  
...



THIS IS  
JUST THE  
START...

...OF A NEW  
BANQUET.

RIGHT?









IT'S THE  
KEY TO  
MY NEW  
PLACE.

COME OVER  
WHENEVER  
YOU WANT.

...?

I DON'T WANT  
YOU WORRYING  
THAT I'M  
CHEATING  
ON YOU OR  
ANYTHING.

OH,  
YEAH.  
HERE.



...  
WOULDN'T  
ACTUALLY...

I...



...THINK...  
THAT.



You  
wanna  
get  
some-  
thing to  
eat?

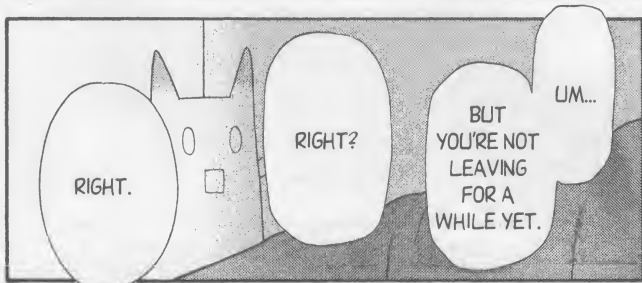
...Yes.

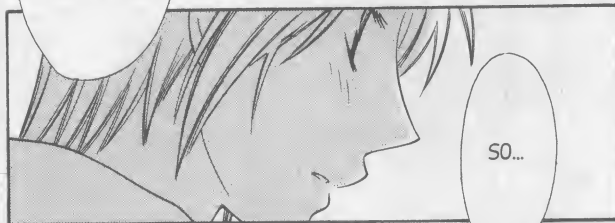
I WANTED  
TO GIVE THIS  
TO YOU.



## Yuki

I went through a pretty difficult labor giving birth to Yuki, and we both suffered and suffered, but now I honestly believe that it was all worth it. He's gained a little confidence, and got a little mean (laugh). I would have liked to draw Yuki a little more.







I'LL GO  
AFTER  
YOU.

NO  
MATTER  
WHAT.

I'LL  
FOLLOW  
YOU!

THEN  
I'LL BE  
WAITING.

S  
O  
M  
A



I KNEW HE CAME  
BACK HERE TO  
THE MAIN HOUSE,  
BUT...WOW.

REALLY?  
I HAD NO  
IDEA!

Waaaaa~

I HEARD  
IT FROM  
MITSURU-  
SAN.

SHE WAS  
VERY  
HAPPY  
ABOUT IT.

That's  
wonderful!!  
I'm so glad!



OH,  
KAGURA-  
CHAN.

DID YOU  
KNOW THAT  
SHIGURE-NIISAN  
STOPPED  
WRITING  
NOVELS?



It's been  
destroyed! The  
evil has been  
destroyed!



WHAT?!

WHEN ARE  
YOU MARRYING  
MITSURU-  
SAN, RITSU?

AND  
HEY.

ARE THEY  
GONNA GET  
MARRIED?

I DON'T  
KNOW.

HMM.

I WONDER IF  
IT REALLY  
IS SO HE  
CAN BE  
WITH AKITO.

*I still don't  
know if and  
when he gives  
a crap about  
anything.*



UGH-FINE.  
DO WHAT-  
EVER YOU  
WANT!

JOIN THE  
LOVEY-DOVEY  
BANDWAGON  
EVERYONE'S  
RIDING RIGHT  
NOW.

I DON'T CARE!  
MY JOB IS MORE  
FUN RIGHT NOW,  
ANYWAY!

I'm too busy for  
anything!

HUH?  
BUT...

NOT THAT  
KIMONO! YOU  
WERE GONNA  
GIVE ME  
THAT ONE!

M-M-M-M-  
MARRY?!  
I COULDN'T! I'M  
S-S-TILL, BUT,  
I MEAN, I-I'M SO--

Is that  
even  
allowed?!



YOU WANT  
THEM TO  
BE HAPPY,  
DON'T YOU?

.....

YOU'RE  
STILL....  
GOING TO SEE  
THEM OFF  
TOMORROW,  
AREN'T YOU?

OF COURSE  
I'M GOING.  
BUT NOT FOR  
TOHRU-KUN.



NO--  
THAT'S  
NOT IT.

IT'S  
FOR MY  
DARLING  
KYO-KUN!





HEY.

WHAT'S GOING  
TO HAPPEN TO  
THAT HOUSE  
NOW THAT  
EVERYONE'S  
LEAVING IT?

WILL  
THEY...  
TEAR IT  
DOWN?

I HEARD  
THEY'LL  
LEAVE IT  
THE WAY  
IT IS FOR  
A WHILE.

REALLY?!

REGARD-  
LESS OF  
HOW I  
FEEL...

...THEY  
WILL BE  
HAPPY.



## In the End

Maybe I should say something more fitting of a final volume, but thinking about it again, nothing comes to mind. Actually, I've been thinking (more than usual) that I don't want to say anything unnecessary and get in the readers' way. And I won't say much about Tohru, Kyo, or Yuki, either. That's because I've drawn a lot about each of them in the story. But I do talk about them a tiny bit in the bonus manga in the second fanbook. Anyone who's interested, please read it. This is a plug (laugh).

I've always wanted my manga to be like a cuttlefish--the more you bite into it, the better it gets. Of course, that's really difficult to achieve, but it's still one of the things I'm always wishing for. I do know nothing will happen from just wishing, so I'm still working very hard at it every day (laugh). I'll keep working hard. Praying for the day we meet again...





DON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
IT.

...I KNOW  
HOW MUCH  
YOU LOVE  
HER.

GO  
AHEAD  
AND CRY.

AND CRY  
AS MUCH  
AS YOU  
WANT TO-  
MORROW.

I  
MEAN...



WE'RE ALL  
MORE GROWN  
UP THAN  
SHII-CHAN IS.

DUH.



SENSEI  
WAS  
LAUGH-  
ING.

...BUT IT  
ENDED UP  
OKAY.

HE SAID  
TORI-NII TOLD  
HIM SOMEONE  
WAS GONNA  
HIT HIM...

I STILL  
THINK KYO  
SHOULDN'T BE  
ALLOWED TO  
TAKE TOHRU  
AWAY.

HE'S BEING  
TOTALLY  
SELFISH.

BY THE  
WAY.

MM...  
WE'VE  
GROWN  
UP...

AT LEAST  
THAT JERK GAVE  
ME SOMETHING  
NEW TO DREAM  
ABOUT.

HUH? BUT  
I CAN'T DO  
IT IN FRONT  
OF TOHRU.

WHY NOT  
PINCH HIM  
TOMOR-  
ROW...?

I WANNA  
PINCH THAT  
KYO!

Reeeally  
hard!

I WANT HER TO SMILE.

FROM  
NOW UNTIL  
FOREVER.

I'M GONNA  
FIND MYSELF  
THE BEST  
GIRLFRIEND IN  
THE WORLD  
SOON.

THEN I'LL  
BRING HER  
TO HIM SO  
I CAN SHOW  
HER OFF.

SO...

...TOHRU  
HAS TO BE  
HAPPY.



I...

...THINK  
SHE SHOULD  
BREAK UP  
WITH HIM.

OH, SHE'S  
SULKING.

OH,  
SHE'S  
MAD.



INDEED.

OH,  
MAN.

No, I'm <sup>hey!</sup> not!  
not! It's  
not like  
that!..

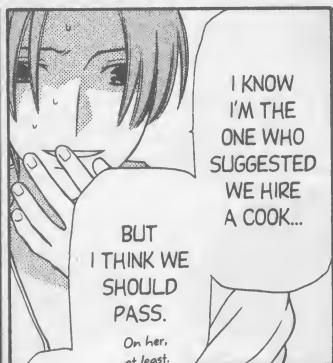
Oh,  
she's  
blush-  
ing.

THEY  
SEEM TO BE  
ENJOYING  
THEM-  
SELVES.



DID  
YOU SAY  
SOME-  
THING?

NOT A  
THING,  
MA'AM.



I KNOW  
I'M THE  
ONE WHO  
SUGGESTED  
WE HIRE  
A COOK...

BUT  
I THINK WE  
SHOULD  
PASS.

On her,  
at least.

IT'S NOT  
THAT THERE'S  
ANYTHING  
WRONG WITH  
SAKI-SAN, BUT  
KYO GOT PRETTY  
WORKED UP.


So...

I'm Saki  
Hanajima.

I hired  
her!

HM?





I THINK  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT IN  
THAT.



I'M SORRY,  
KYO... I TRIED.  
SHE WON'T  
QUIT.

But isn't that  
good in its  
own way or  
something?

THE  
TIME  
IS  
FINALLY  
HERE.

HE'LL BE  
LEAVING  
TOMO-  
ROW.

YES.



WELL...

...I WILL  
MISS HIM,  
OF COURSE.

BUT  
I WON'T  
WORRY  
ABOUT  
HIM.





KINDA.  
I WILL  
MISS HER.

BUT IT'S  
OKAY.

THIS IS SUCH A  
HAPPY THING,  
Y'KNOW? I'M  
KINDA GETTING  
EXCITED  
MYSELF.

THEM  
SETTING  
OUT AND  
ALL.



...HUH?

YEAH!

TOMOR-  
ROW.

I'LL GIVE  
'EM YOUR  
REGARDS.

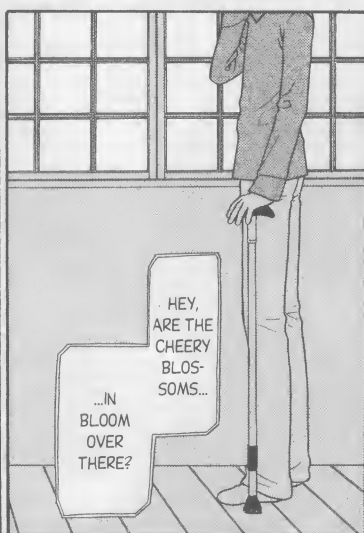


THEN  
I GUESS I'LL  
BE SETTING  
OUT MYSELF  
SOON.

HAVE  
A MEAL  
READY  
FOR ME,  
WILL YA?



...  
SOON.



HEY,  
ARE THE  
CHEERY  
BLOS-  
SOMS...

...IN  
BLOOM  
OVER  
THERE?



TORORO  
SOBA?



AYA-KUN,  
AYA-KUN!





BUT  
AYA-KUN.

NOW THAT  
I'M EXPERI-  
ENCING IT...

...IT REALLY  
IS LONELY  
TO HAVE  
CHILDREN  
LEAVE THE  
NEST.



*Bien fait  
Mme!*

ALL THAT YOU  
FEEL, ALL THAT YOU  
THINK OF SHOULD BE  
CLAPPED INTO A BOX!  
OUR MISSION IS OF GREAT  
IMPORTANCE--TO LEAD THEM  
INTO A FASCINATING AND  
ELEGANT LIFESTYLE!

HOW ABOUT  
THIS ONE  
TOO?!

AS A  
GIFT FOR  
TOHRU-KUN!




...INTO STUFFING  
CARDBOARD BOXES  
WITH INSTANT  
RAMEN, SOCKS,  
MAID OUTFITS, AND  
WHAT-HAVE-YOU.

THE  
BOXES WILL  
BE GIVEN  
IN PLACE  
OF THEIR  
FEELINGS!

THAT  
IS PRECISELY  
WHY ADULTS  
ARE TO PUT  
SICKENING  
AMOUNTS  
OF LOVE...

BUT OF  
COURSE! IT  
IS LONELY!




FOR THE  
CHILDREN.



WHEREVER  
THEY MAY GO!




THUS!



WE MUST SEND  
YUKI ARTICLES OF  
AN EVEN GREATER  
BIEN FAIT QUALITY  
THAN EVEN THESE!

*Every week,  
if we must!*



HOW ABOUT  
THIS FOR  
THE LITTLE  
BROTHER?!

*He can still  
make it work!*



...I MEAN, IS  
THAT OKAY?  
CAN YOU GO?

I  
INVITED YOU  
BECAUSE  
I CAN GO.

I'VE NEVER  
BEEN ON  
A DECENT  
VACATION  
BEFORE.

DURING  
SUMMER  
BREAK? LET'S  
TOTALLY GO!

O K I N A W A  
?!



AND I LIKE  
THAT IT'S SO  
UNLIKE YOU,  
HATORI-KUN!

Uhya!

YOU  
SEEM TO BE  
ENJOYING  
YOURSELF,  
MAYU.

HATORI-KUN  
ON A SOUTHERN  
ISLAND! HATORI-  
KUN IN SHORT  
SLEEVES!

Hya  
hya

I CAN'T EVEN  
IMAGINE YOU  
IN A SWIMSUIT  
THESE--

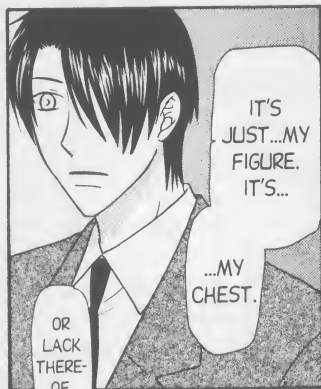
I won't  
wear a  
swimsuit.



THERE ARE  
STILL A LOT OF  
PLACES IN THE  
COUNTRY THAT  
I'VE NEVER  
BEEN TO.

I THOUGHT  
I'D START IN  
THE SOUTH  
AND WORK  
MY WAY UP.

THAT'S A  
GREAT IDEA!



IT'S  
JUST...MY  
FIGURE.  
IT'S...

...MY  
CHEST.

OR  
LACK  
THERE-  
OF.



AND I'M  
SO TALL...

...  
UGH.



I'M SORRY. I'M  
THE ONE WHO'S  
RIDICULOUS IN  
A SWIMSUIT.

WHY?

NO,  
I...NO.



CLATTER

ANY-  
WAY, ONTO  
BRIGHTER  
TOPICS.

LET'S CHECK  
OUT TRAVEL  
AGENCIES  
TODAY!

YOU'RE  
GOING TO THE  
SEND-OFF  
TOMORROW,  
RIGHT?

YES.



I KNOW!  
I KNOW  
YOU HAVE  
THE RIGHT  
TO LAUGH  
AT ME...

...AND I KNOW  
I LAUGHED  
AT YOU, BUT  
PLEASE STOP  
LAUGHING!

NOW  
YOU  
SAY  
IT?

Heh  
heh  
heh

Heh  
heh





I HOPE THE  
WEATHER  
IS CLEAR.

YEAH.

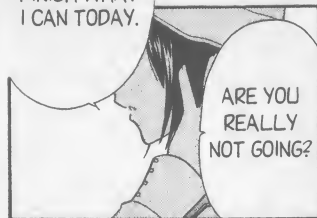
OOO-  
KAY.



LOOK  
AT YOU--  
POSTER  
CHILD OF  
THE LABOR  
FORCE.

IT'S BECAUSE  
YOU'RE GOING  
TO SEE THEM  
OFF TOMORROW,  
SHIGURE.

I HAVE TO  
FINISH WHAT  
I CAN TODAY.



ARE YOU  
REALLY  
NOT GOING?



WE'RE DONE  
WITH THE  
ERRANDS.

WANT TO  
GO DO SOME-  
THING FUN?

I'M GOING  
HOME TO  
WORK.



I SEE.

AND ARE YOU  
GOING TO BRING  
ME ALONG ON  
THOSE LITTLE  
EXCURSIONS?



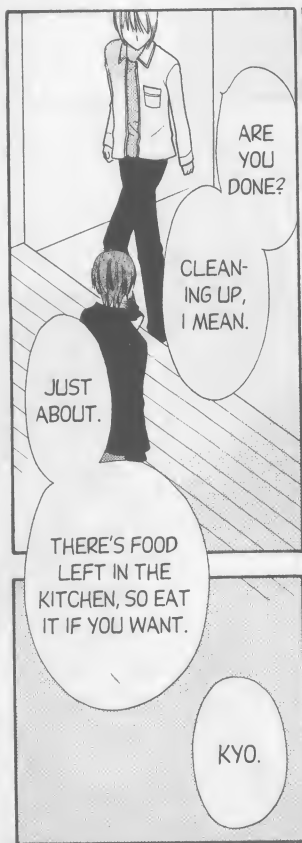
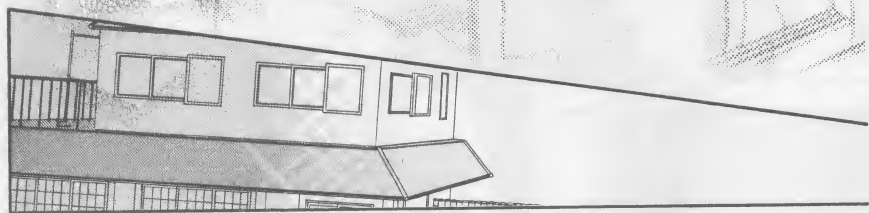
I'M NOT  
GOING.

...I'LL  
JUST GO  
SEE HER.

WHAT  
DOES IT  
MATTER?

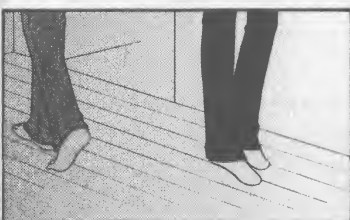
ANYTIME  
I WANT TO  
SEE HER...







LIVING  
ROOM.



DO YOU  
MIND?

...TALK TO  
HONDA-SAN  
ALONE.

I WANT  
TO...



HEY.

MAKE SURE  
TO KEEP  
YOUR ACT  
TOGETHER.



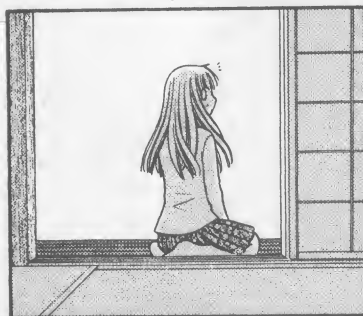
DON'T  
MESS  
UP, YOU  
STUPID  
CAT.



MY LIFE'S  
NONE OF  
YOUR  
BUSINESS.



STUPID  
RAT.







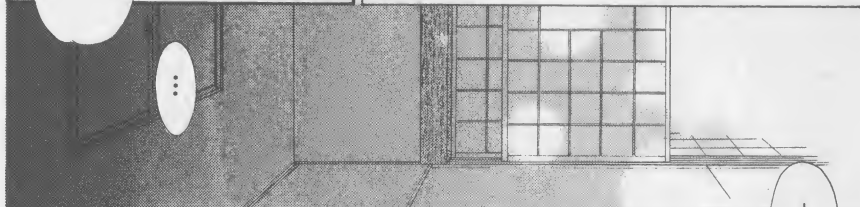
...I'M  
HOME.



SO.

YOU'RE  
FINALLY  
LEAVING  
TOMORROW.

YES!



...



... "WELCOME  
BACK"  
ANYMORE.



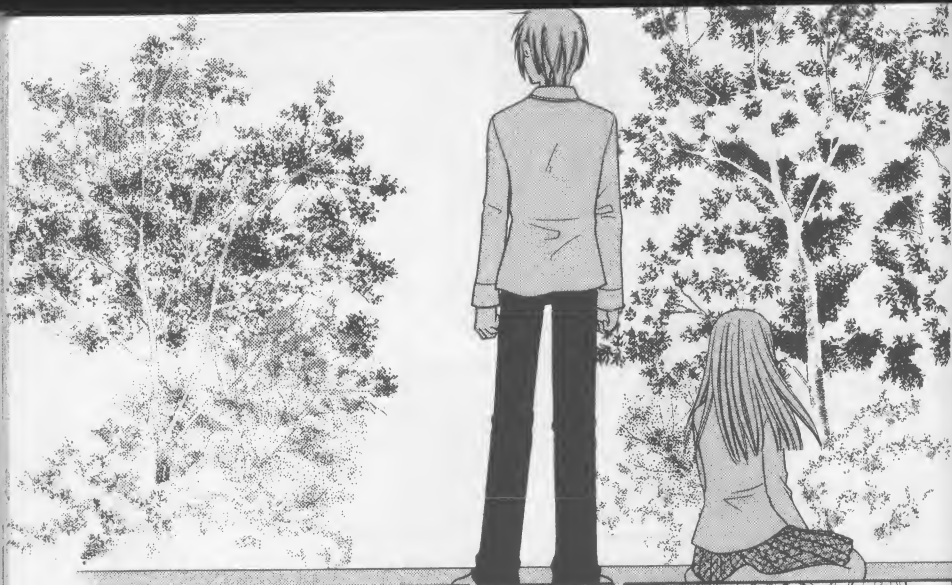
I  
WON'T  
...

...GET TO  
HEAR YOU  
SAY...



YUKI-KUN!

WELCOME  
BACK!

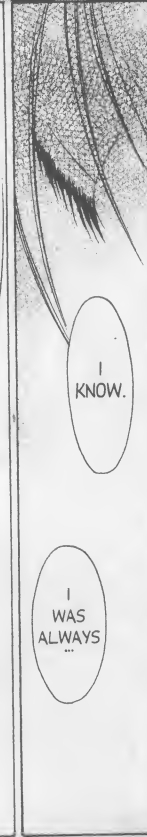


...SO  
WEAK.

I COULDN'T  
DEAL WITH  
PEOPLE WELL,  
BUT I STILL  
WANTED TO  
BE LOVED.

I WANTED  
TO BE  
NEEDED.

ALL I  
DID WAS  
WANT.



I  
KNOW.

I  
WAS  
ALWAYS  
...



STILL.

I'M  
HONEST-  
LY  
...

...HAPPY  
ABOUT  
ALL THIS.

I'M HAPPY...

...THAT I  
MADE IT TO  
THIS POINT.



...MY  
WISH.

FREE OF  
CHARGE.

YOU  
TAUGHT ME  
SO MUCH.

"YOU DON'T  
KNOW, DO  
YOU?"



...WHO  
WAS BEING  
SAVED."

"IT WAS  
ALWAYS  
ME..."



YOU GAVE  
ME WHAT  
I NEEDED.



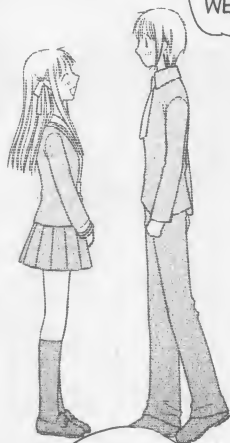
"THANK  
YOU..."

...FOR  
ALWAYS...

BUT DURING  
THAT  
PERIOD OF  
MY LIFE...

...YOU  
APPEARED.

AND  
THEN  
THERE  
YOU  
WERE.



YOU  
GRANTED...



IT WAS  
YOU,  
TOHRU.

YOU  
MADE ME  
HUMAN.

YOU RAISED  
ME, AS A  
PERSON.

TO ME...

...YOU  
WERE...

...PRACTI-  
CALLY  
MY  
MOTHER.



...ACCEPTING MY  
WEAKNESS."

THAT'S  
WHY...

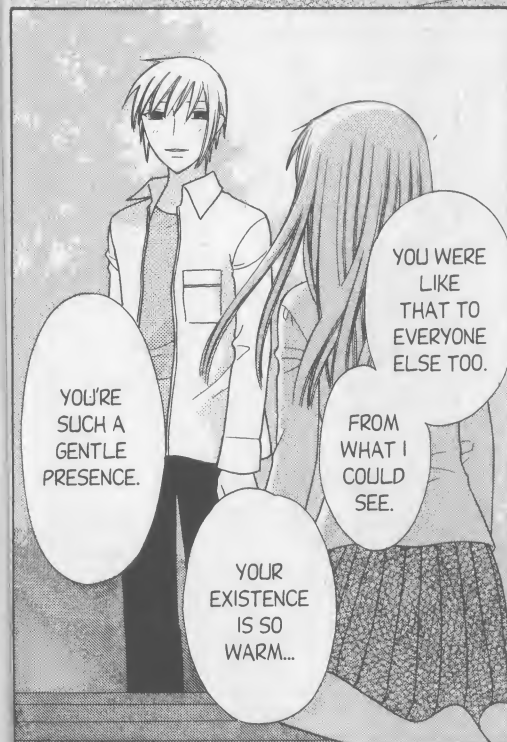
...I CAN  
STAND  
HERE NOW.

THE MAN I  
AM TODAY.



...THERE.

I  
FINALLY  
SAID IT.



YOU'RE  
SUCH A  
GENTLE  
PRESENCE.

YOU WERE  
LIKE  
THAT TO  
EVERYONE  
ELSE TOO.

FROM  
WHAT I  
COULD  
SEE.

YOUR  
EXISTENCE  
IS SO  
WARM...



THAT'S  
HOW I  
REALLY  
FEEL.

I  
GUESS  
...

...IT'S A  
LITTLE  
LAME,  
THOUGH.

IT'S  
NOT...!

AT ANY  
RATE.



ARE YOU  
DOING  
WELL?

THIS  
IS THE  
TIME.

YOU'RE NOT  
CRYING,  
ARE YOU?

WE'RE  
ALL GOING  
TO NEW  
ENVIRON-  
MENTS...

...SO WE CAN  
LIVE OUR  
OWN LIVES.

AND  
SUDDENLY  
...

ARE YOU...

...STILL  
SMILING?

...WE'RE  
ALL  
THINKING  
OF YOU.

ARE YOU  
TRULY...





...LOVES YOU.

EVERYBODY...



...HAPPY ON  
THIS DAY?

WE'RE  
ALL  
THINKING  
IT.



ALL  
OF US.



AND  
WE'LL  
KEEP  
THINKING  
IT.





THANK  
YOU.



I'M SO  
GLAD...



...I MET  
YOU.



...YOU  
WERE HERE  
FOR US.



AND I'M  
GLAD...

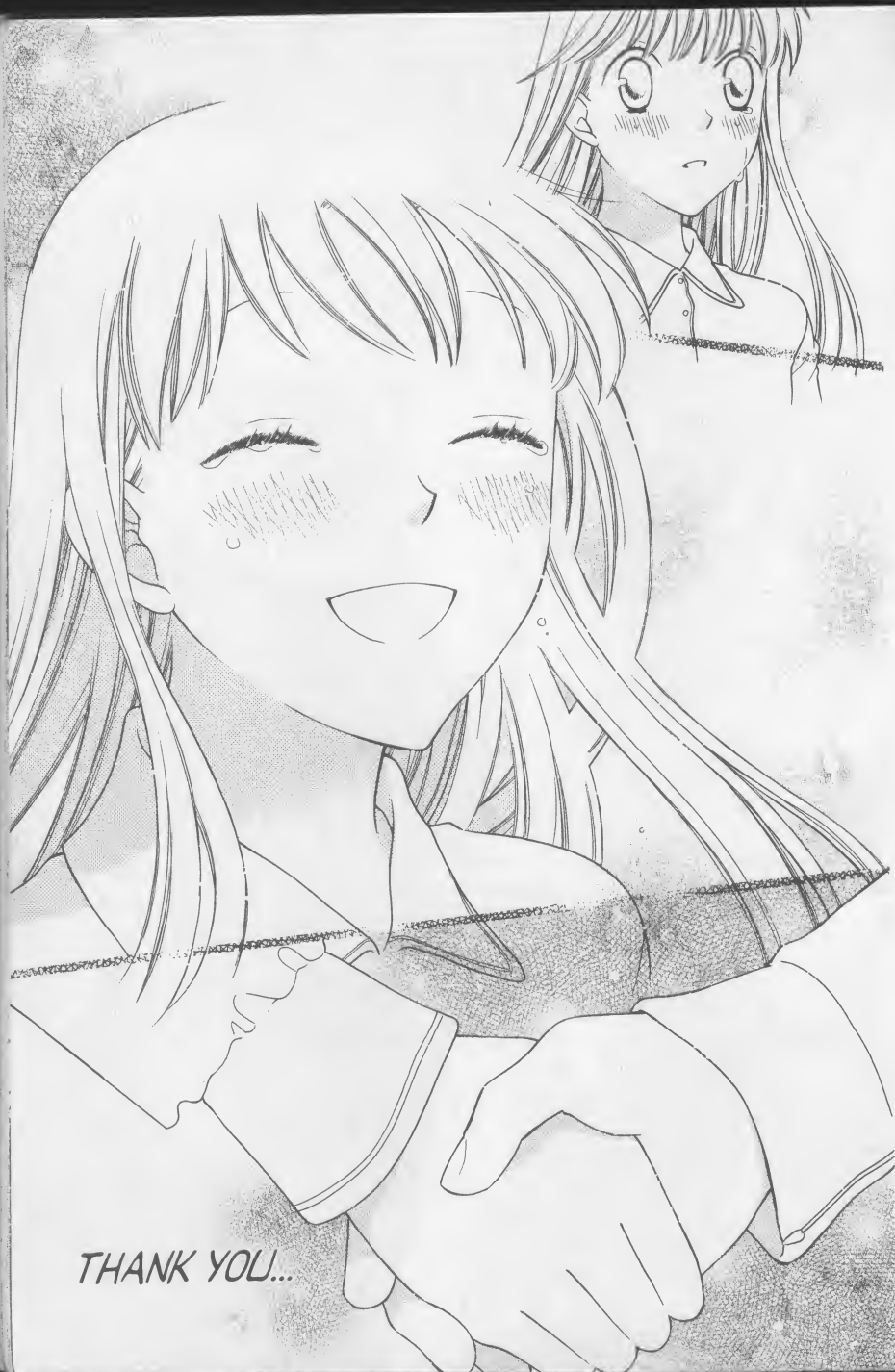


THANK  
YOU.

THANK  
YOU.

THANK  
YOU.

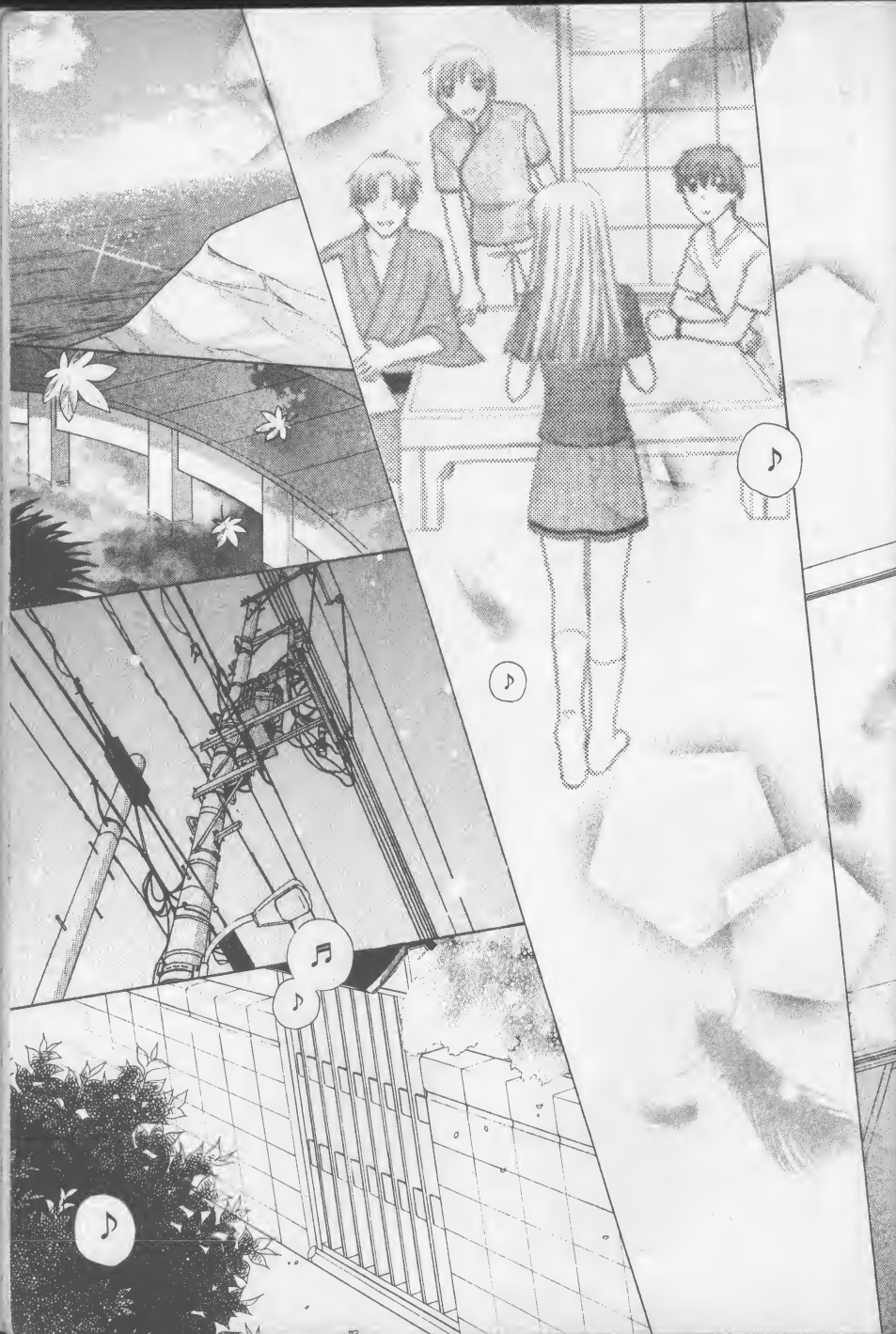
"TOHRU."



THANK YOU...

*I'M OFF.*









HUH?

MOMMY?

MOMMY!

...TOGETHER.

Awwww!  
THEY LEFT  
ME BEHIND  
AGAIN!

DON'T GET  
IN THE WAY  
OF THEIR  
LOVEY-DOVEY  
ALONE TIME,  
SWEETHEART.

LOVEY-  
DOVEY,  
LOVEY-  
DOVEY!  
LUCKIES!

THEY'RE  
ALWAYS...

WHERE'S  
TOHRU-KUN  
AND KYO-KUN?

HEY,  
LITTLE  
LADY.

THAT'S  
GRANDMA  
AND GRANDPA  
TO YOU!

Huh?  
BUT TOHRU-  
KUN SAID I  
COULD CALL  
HER BY HER  
NAME!

GRANDPA  
AND  
GRANDMA...

...ARE  
OUT ON  
A WALK.

*HOLDING HANDS.*



REPEAT THE GOOD...

...AND  
THE  
BAD.

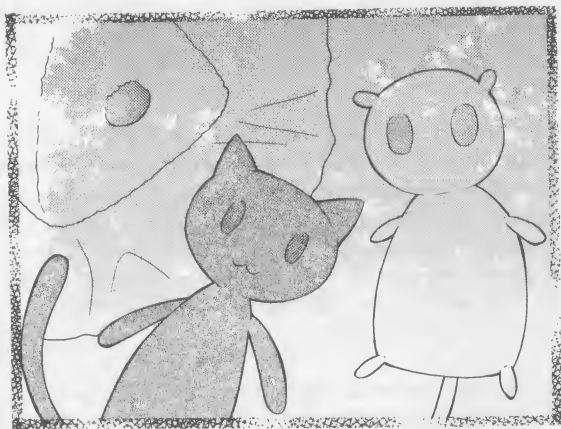
DO IT ALL...



*...AND PILE ON  
THE YEARS.*



**Fruits Basket / The End**



✦ I feel so grateful! ✦

Harada-sama     Araki-sama  
Mother-sama     Editor-sama

And everyone who reads and supports this manga.

Everyone and anyone who was involved in Furuba.

Truly, thank you very much...!

This has been Natsuki Takaya.



# Fans Basket

You knew it had to come sooner or later, and now it's here! The final printed volume of Fans Basket! We want to express our sincere gratitude to our lovely and hardworking interns - Janice Kwon, Kandice Cho, and Karen Lam! They did a terrific job of picking out some truly inspiring selections of artwork submitted by you, the loyal fans of Fruits Basket. Great job, ladies!

And of course, we want to thank all of those who submitted their amazing artwork, not only for this volume, but for all the amazing pieces we've had sent in to us over the years - thank you all!

But just because the series has reached its conclusion doesn't mean you can no longer submit your Fans Basket art! From now on, instead of sending in the original pages to the office, please submit your work to the TOKYOPOP website. This way, we'll be able to keep the Furuba love going on and on! See the last page of this section for details and instructions.

And now... enjoy the art of Fans Basket!



Hope  
Age 16  
Philadelphia, PA

This fan art really captured Isuzu's character! Not only was it drawn very well, but the picture portrayed Isuzu's emotions as well. The detail put into the picture really made this stand out of the piles of fan art. Great job, Hope!

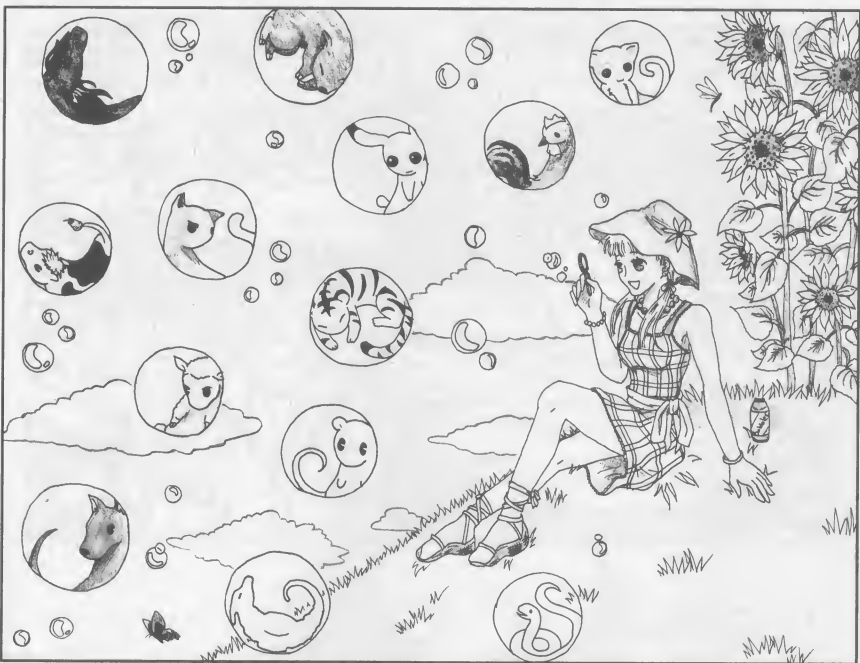


Hanseul Yoo

Age 14

Leesburg, VA

Aww! Kyo and Tooru look so happy together...I like how Kyo is ignoring all the other people's objections! I also love how Hanseul drew in the other characters' reactions to their relationship... especially Shigure's perplexed look and Ritsu's frantic look.



**Lacey Hathaway**  
Age 15  
Charles Town, WV

**Everyone can see that Lacey put a lot of time and effort into drawing this fan art, cause it looks awesome! So creative, too! I love how Tohru is wearing a cute dress while blowing bubbles filled with each Fruits Basket character.**

# Fruits Basket

**Melissa Reña**  
Age 15  
Yakima, WA



**Kyo is so adorable in this one! It makes you want to pinch his cheeks through the paper. The expression on his face is hilarious, and you can't help but laugh at his look. Melissa definitely captured all aspects of Fruits Basket in this drawing.**

**Katie Cunningham**  
Age 14  
Roanoke, VA

**Kisa is so adorable here with her absolutely innocent look. Great job on portraying Kisa's shy and gentle personality! The smiling tiger on the side is a nice touch that brings out Kisa's playful side as well.**



Noor M.  
Age 12  
Kansas

It's hard not to love Kisa when she's this cute with her lopsided tiger hat! Her fuzzy pompoms match her personality perfectly, and the tiger doll next to her foot looks just as clumsy and innocent as its owner! And to the best friend Ami, "Chicken is yummy!" Of course, with no offense to Kurenno.



Amanda Butkovich  
Age 14  
Molalla, OR

Sometimes Yuki does look like a girl, and I like how Amanda points it out! In Amanda's fan art, you really can't tell which one is the prince and which is the princess. The one on the left is the prince and the one on the right is the princess...right?



♥ Furuba ♥

Sammy

Gausvik  
#1/16/06

Samantha Gausvik

Age 14

Myrtle Creek, OR

Kisa looks absolutely divine in this drawing. The attention to detail is so careful—the wisps of hair, the gleam in her eyes, the slight flush of her cheeks—and lends this drawing a life-like quality. I love how the innocent look on her face was captured so well!

Lily Li  
Age 15  
New York, NY

Tohru's hair and eyes bring this drawing to life. I love the way her hair playfully floats in the air and her eyes sparkle with laughter! Lily did an amazing job getting in all the details, especially the feelings between Kyo and Yuki.



D-Char<sup>06</sup>  
1/20/06



**Sara Kim Hopkins**  
**Age 11**  
**Berkeley, CA**

**Kisa doesn't look cold at all out in the snow holding those flowers. She looks like she's waiting for someone—maybe Hiro? For an 11-year-old, Sara did a great job on her fan art! Hope you continue to draw these lovely pictures!**



**Natalie Vanessa Devick**  
**Age 14**  
**Oronoco MN**

**I love how Natalie drew Yuki and Machi in a wedding sketch, just because she believes that they need each other. It just shows the imagination and originality of this sketch. Also, the roses and design of the dress are so exquisite. I'm sure it's a dress that every girl dreams of getting married in!**



**Bianca Tseng**  
Age 12  
Cupertino, CA

I couldn't stop myself from smiling at this sort of dazed Ritsu! She looks so out of it and so funny in her kimono. Too bad you can't see the colored version of this drawing, because it made me so happy just looking at it. I wish I could have drawn this well when I was twelve...

art you have sent in! We have  
il pieces over the years. But  
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om/fansbasket for more info!



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